Outcome Evaluation of Ohio's Drug Court Efforts

Report

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INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this study is to examine the effectiveness of drug courts throughout Ohio. In order to cover the range of drug courts operating in the State, this study includes an analysis of offenders that participated in drug courts at the Common Pleas (felony), municipal (misdemeanant), and juvenile levels.

Drug use and related crime remains as a consistent priority among policymakers, however, the treatment of drug abusing offenders has changed over the past few years. The shift toward rehabilitative efforts came in the late 1980s with the development of the drug court model. The typical drug court model provides community-based drug treatment and increased judicial involvement. Since 1989, with the inception of the first drug court in Miami Florida, over 700 courts have emerged and approximately 400 more are in the planning process (National Association of Drug Court Professionals, 2001). Currently, drug courts exist in every state in the nation and have served over 14,000 individuals. The U.S. Department of Justice also placed a high priority on drug courts; since 1995, the Drug Courts Programs Office provided $56 million in funding for development and research (Belenko, 1998). Given the degree of support and fiscal commitment, the implementation of these specialized courts will likely increase.

In 1995, researchers in the Center for Criminal Justice Research at the University of Cincinnati began an evaluation of Ohio's first drug court (Hamilton County). Since that time, numerous other drug courts have been implemented throughout the State. As part of an on-going evaluation of these efforts, the Center for Criminal Justice Research has been studying and gathering data from drug courts across Ohio. This report provides a picture of who is being served and the effectiveness of Ohio's drug court programs.

EVALUATING DRUG COURTS

As with any program evaluation, assessing the operations and impacts of a drug court program is a complex process. Each drug court is planned to achieve specific outcomes for identified types of cases or offenders. While some program impacts are common to all courts (reduced criminality, reduced substance abuse, etc.), the characteristics of participants, treatment options, monitoring activities, and sanctions vary across sites. The statewide evaluation system was designed to handle differences between the courts while also producing summary information about drug courts in general.[1]

A drug court program can be viewed as a process designed to produce specific impacts, much like a manufacturing operations. The program has inputs (offenders and offenses, staff, resources), throughput (procedures, treatments, sanctions), and outputs (changes in recidivism and substance abuse). The drug court evaluation required the measurement of each component. The impact or effect of drug court programming can be understood against a benchmark of what would be expected had there been no court program. The outcome evaluation is designed to compare the drug court products (recidivism rates, relapse, severity of addiction) with similar measures for cases that did not participate in the drug court program. Ideally, the evaluation allows researchers to attribute any observed differences to the drug court.

CURRENT RESEARCH FOCUS: EVALUATING WHAT IS KNOWN

Over the last several years, the drug court project has produced several evaluations of drug courts across Ohio. Specifically, the Hamilton County (Cincinnati)

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[1] A few courts chose to develop their own management information systems. In these instances, technical assistance was provided by UC to include the data elements necessary for future evaluation purposes.

drug court has been evaluated twice; once in 1997 and again in 1999. Additionally, we have recently completed evaluations of both the Erie County Common Pleas Drug Court, and the Akron (Summit County) Municipal Drug Court.

The current study focuses primarily on the effects of frequent court contacts and community-based drug treatment on recidivism rates. The current study builds upon the previous evaluations and research by examining the following research questions:

1. *What are the characteristics of the offenders served by the drug courts in Ohio?*

2. *What, if any, differences exist between the drug court and comparison groups with regard to background characteristics?*

3. *What are treatment needs and retention rates among drug court participants?*

4. *Are drug courts effective in reducing recidivism?*

5. *What factors predict the likelihood of success/failure?*

METHODS

Research Design

This project used a quasi-experimental matched comparison group design in order to estimate the impact of drug courts on future criminal involvement.[2] Three distinct groups were evaluated: 1) Common Pleas, 2) Municipal, and 3) Juvenile drug courts. Random assignment to groups was not feasible; however, in order to develop comparison group, offenders were matched with regard to selected demographic characteristics as well as the presence of a substance abuse problem. The criteria for inclusion in the

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[2] The Summit County Juvenile Drug Court has used random assignment.

comparison group were that each participant must have (1) a reported substance abuse problem, and (2) be eligible for the drug court program. The quasi-experimental design is a common approach with program evaluations, since random assignment is rarely obtainable in court related programs.[3]

Drug Court Groups

Ohio has a large number of operating drug courts; however, in order to develop treatment and comparison groups in which a sufficient follow-up period could be developed the majority of offenders included in this study came from ten of the longer operating drug courts. In addition, a sample of both adult and juvenile offenders that participated in drug courts was from across the state.

Offenders from the Common Pleas sample included 788 drug court participants and 429 comparison group members. Four drug court sites were included: Hamilton, Butler, Erie, and Richland counties. The Municipal sample consisted of 556 drug court participants and 228 comparison group members from Cuyahoga County, Miami County, and the City of Akron. Finally, the Juvenile drug court sample included 310 participants and 134 comparison group members from three sites: Belmont, Summit, and Montgomery counties.[4] Finally, we combined the Common Pleas, Municipal, and Juvenile drug court data.[5] Other drug courts were not selected due to a lack of data.[6]

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[3] There are several problems with a quasi-experimental design, which should be noted. First, there are often important differences between those offenders who participate in a drug court and those who do not. When known, significant differences are controlled for, however, offender motivation to change, and other important factors cannot be accounted for. Second, one cannot assume that some members of the comparison group did not receive treatment of some type. What we do know is that they did not receive the "drug court" model, however, it is also likely that treatment services similar to those offered through drug courts were available to these offenders.

[4] For a detailed description of the various drug courts included in this study see: Shaffer D. K., S. Johnson, and E. J. Latessa (2000). *Description of Ohio Drug Courts*, University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH.

[5] We attempted to draw a sample of offenders from other drug courts throughout the state, however due to problems with data collection and record checks we decided to drop these cases from the final report.

[6] Data were either not available or the drug court was not in operation long enough to have outcome data.

Comparison Groups

The comparison groups consisted of men, women, and youth who were eligible for drug courts, but for a variety of reasons did not receive drug court services. The reasons offered include: individuals with too many pending cases against them, and those denied for "other" reasons by the Narcotics Unit, Prosecutor, Police Department, or Probation Department. Individuals were selected based on demographics and the presence of a substance abuse problem.

Comparability of the Courts

The courts used in the analyses are similar to one another and drug courts across the country. The drug courts all provide community based treatment services, judicial monitoring, and frequent urinalysis. The eligibility criteria used by each court is based on the current and past behavior of the defendant and a willingness to participate in the services provided. Typically, the courts accept participants who are arrested for a drug or drug related crime or those who exhibit a drug problem. The judge, prosecutor, drug court staff, and treatment agency typically screen the potential participants. Offenders are often given a suspended sentence of jail or prison time; in the event that they fail to successfully complete the program, the court may invoke the terms. Traffickers, those with a history of violence, sex offenses, severe mental illness, and those with acute health conditions are typically excluded from participation in the drug courts. Offenders who refuse to participate in the drug court program have their case adjudicated through traditional courts and typically receive probation or, in some cases, jail or prison.

Data Collection

As part of the Supreme Court project, the University of Cincinnati created an automated database to assist courts with data collection and provide a mechanism for

reporting results. The database was installed at drug courts between 1997 and 2000. Court personnel collect and enter data into this automated system.[7] The data collected include: basic offender demographics, offense and disposition, prior criminal history, drug use and treatment history, current treatment needs, treatment placement and outcome, court reported violations, satisfaction with the drug court and its process, and termination status of drug court participants. Each site collected recidivism data related to offender outcome.[8]

Data Analysis

The data were analyzed by type of drug court (Common Pleas, Municipal, and Juvenile) as well as overall (combined). This study examines the differences among the drug court and comparison group members along a variety of measures. In some circumstances data were not collected for the comparison group cases and only data from the treatment group is presented. Examining rearrest rates between both groups helped determine the impact of drug court on future criminal behavior. Chi-square and t-tests were conducted to examine the differences between the groups. Multivariate analysis was also used to statistically control the various characteristics of the offender sample. Specifically, logistic regression was used to determine the factors that predicted a new arrest. This technique generates log-odds probabilities for each significant predictor, and when considering a particular outcome (in this case rearrest), logistic regression allows for the detection of the amount of power that each variable contributes in influencing the

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[7] University of Cincinnati personnel collected and entered data for the following courts: Cuyahoga County Municipal, Miami County Municipal, and Summit County Juvenile.
[8] Recidivism data were collected at various times ranging from 1997 to 2001.

outcome one at a time, while controlling for every other variable in the equation.[9]

Measures

Independent Variables: There were a number of independent variables examined in this study. These include background factors (e.g. demographic, criminal and substance abuse history, offense information, etc.), treatment related variables, and time-at-risk. These factors allowed us to 1) profile the offenders in this study, 2) determine the comparability of the drug court and comparison groups, and 3) identify factors significantly related to outcome.

Dependent Variables: The major dependent variable included in this study was recidivism (defined as new arrest). We also explored arrest charge and whether an individual was arrested on multiple occasions. Using these data we can determine the effectiveness of the drug court model as well as distinguish the various predictors associated with a new arrest.

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[9] The log-odds probabilities are the estimates of the antilogs of the constants. This has the effect of using the parameter estimates that control for the differences to estimate the odds of failure. Using the constant to derive the "base failure expectancy" has the effect of setting all the other values to 0. The estimate thus was derived from the following formula: log odds of failure-constant + $b_{race}(0)$ + $b_{education}(0)$ + $b_{employment}(0)$ +... $b_{group}(0)$. The odds ratios were converted from the log odds by taking the antilog of the estimates described above. The estimated percentages presented throughout the report were derived from the odds rations. For example an odds ratio of .644 was translated to a percentage by taking its reciprocal (1/.644=1.55) to derive the odds (1:1.55). The odds ratio means that the sample was comprised of 1 failure and 1.55 successes. The total sample then was the sum of failure and success (1 + 1.55 = 2.55), and the percent who failed was (1/2.55)*100=39.2. For a more detailed description of this procedure see: Langworthy, R. and E. Latessa (1993) Treatment of Chronic Drunk Drivers: The Turning Point Project. *Journal of Criminal Justice, 21*:265-276.

COMMON PLEAS DRUG COURT RESULTS

There are currently 14 common pleas drug courts in the state of Ohio. These courts target felony level adult offenders. For purposes of this analysis, common pleas drug courts from Butler County, Erie County, Hamilton County, and Richland County were selected. While the courts and counties differ from one another in terms of specific structure, size, and region, they are similar in the fact that they all follow the basic drug court model.

Social demographic data were collected in an effort to describe the drug court and comparison groups and to investigate whether differences in outcome were related to individual differences within the samples. Moreover, knowing the population served by drug courts allows us to determine whether case outcomes were influenced by any of these factors. This section profiles the two groups based on basic demographic characteristics such as race, gender, age, marital status, education level, employment status, current offense characteristics, disposition, and criminal history. This section will address the following questions:

- *What are the characteristics of the offenders served by the Common Pleas Drug Courts in Ohio?*

- *What, if any, differences exist between the Common Pleas Drug Court and comparison groups with regard to background characteristics?*

Social Demographic Information

Table 1 compares the two groups with regards to race, gender, age, marital status, education, and employment status at the time of the arrest. The two groups were similar on all factors except education level. The majority of offenders in both groups were non-white, male, not married, and employed, with the average age slightly over 30. With regard to education level, the drug court group was better educated, with 41.5 percent

Table 1. Background Characteristics of the Common Pleas Drug Court & Comparison Groups

Characteristics	Drug Court N (n=788)	%	Comparison N (n=429)	%
Race				
White	382	48.8	212	49.8
Non - White	401	51.2	214	50.2
Gender				
Male	451	76.7	242	72.5
Female	137	23.3	92	27.5
Age				
18-22	144	20.5	105	28.6
23-28	118	16.8	62	16.9
29-34	142	20.3	67	18.3
35-40	161	23.0	69	18.8
41 & above	136	19.4	64	17.4
Mean	32.22		30.91	
Marital Status				
Married	118	23.0	82	23.4
Not Married	394	77.0	269	76.6
Highest Grade Completed				
Less than High School	461	58.5	345	80.4
High School Graduate	327	41.5	84	19.6

$\chi^2 = 59.657$; p = .000

Characteristics	Drug Court N	%	Comparison N	%
Hours Per Week Worked				
Full Time	109	31.1	71	28.0
Part Time	134	38.2	111	43.7
Unemployed	108	30.8	72	28.3

Ns may not total 788 or 429 due to missing data. This pertains to all tables and figures for the Common Pleas Drug Courts.

reported as high school graduates versus only 19.6 percent for the comparison group. This difference was statistically significant.

Offense and Disposition Information

As illustrated by Table 2, the groups were similar in terms of charge or offense information. Specifically, the majority of offenders in both groups were charged with drug offenses and were adjudicated. Moreover, a vast majority of each group received drug treatment as part of their disposition.[10] Aside from drug treatment, however, the treatment and comparison group members were treated very differently. Members of the comparison group were significantly more likely to receive intensive supervision, court costs and fines, fees, electronic monitoring, community service, and restitution compared to members of the treatment group. In contrast, drug court participants were significantly more likely to receive drug testing and license suspension as part of their disposition. Finally, members of both groups were not likely to receive work detail.

Criminal History

Table 3 describes the number of prior arrests among the drug court members and comparison group members. Drug court participants were significantly more likely to have a prior record (47.0%) than comparison group members (24.7%). However, there were no significant differences between groups when prior arrests are broken down by type. In both groups, the majority of members had two or more prior felony arrests, two or more prior misdemeanor arrests, and no prior delinquent arrests. Thus, although the

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[10] We do not know the reason that referral to drug treatment was not made in every case, however, there are several possible explanations. For example, the offender might have absconded prior to referral, or the offender was convicted on new charges prior to a referral being made.

Table 2. Offense & Disposition Information for Common Pleas Drug Court & Comparison Groups

Characteristics	Drug Court		Comparison	
	N	%	N	%
	(n=788)		(n=429)	
Current Charge:				
Drug	185	66.1	102	72.3
Property	79	28.2	30	21.3
Person	16	5.7	9	6.4
Legal Status				
Convicted/Adjudicated	97	44.1	36	41.9
Treatment In Lieu	67	30.5	28	32.6
Preconviction/Adjudication	56	25.5	22	25.6
Disposition Drug Treatment				
Yes	375	91.7	59	89.4
No	34	8.3	7	10.6
Disposition Intensive Supervision				
Yes	167	27.9	44	84.6
No	432	72.1	8	15.4
$\chi^2 = 70.305$; p = .000				
Disposition Drug Testing				
Yes	403	97.6	61	89.7
No	10	2.4	7	10.3
$\chi^2 = 10.614$; p = .001				
Disposition Court Cost and Fines				
Yes	396	65.7	65	97.0
No	207	34.3	2	3.0
$\chi^2 = 27.600$; p = .000				
Disposition License Suspension				
Yes	280	50.2	7	20.0
No	278	49.8	28	80.0
$\chi^2 = 12.011$; p = .001				
Disposition Fees				
Yes	237	67.3	48	81.4
No	115	32.7	11	18.6
$\chi^2 = 4.676$; p = .031				

Table 2 con't. Offense & Disposition Information for Common Pleas Drug Court & Comparison Groups

Characteristics	Drug Court		Comparison	
	N	%	N	%
	(n=788)		(n=429)	
Disposition Work Detail				
Yes	2	.7	0	0
No	276	99.3	29	100.0
Disposition Electronic Monitoring				
Yes	1	.4	2	6.7
No	275	99.6	28	93.3
$\chi^2 = 11.078$; p = .001				
Disposition Community Service				
Yes	22	4.3	4	12.5
No	488	95.7	28	87.5
$\chi^2 = 4.418$; p = .036				
Disposition Restitution				
Yes	65	21.8	16	44.4
No	233	78.2	20	55.6
$\chi^2 = 8.956$; p = .003				

Table 3. Criminal History for the Common Pleas Drug Court & Comparison Group

Characteristics	Drug Court N (n=788)	%	Comparison N (n=429)	%
Prior Record (Adult or Juvenile)				
Yes	418	53.0	323	75.3
No	370	47.0	106	24.7
$\chi^2 = 57.722$; p = .000				
Number of Prior Felony Arrests				
None	88	20.1	65	18.6
1	154	35.2	123	35.1
2 or more	196	44.7	162	46.3
Number of Prior Misdemeanor Arrests				
None	38	8.8	44	12.6
1	140	32.6	135	38.6
2 or more	252	58.6	171	48.9
Number of Prior Delinquent Arrests				
None	94	65.7	72	70.6
1	17	11.9	10	9.8
2 or more	32	22.4	20	19.6
Number of Prior Sentences to Community Supervision				
None	121	52.6	76	56.7
1	60	26.1	40	29.9
2 or more	49	21.3	18	13.4
Unsuccessful Terminations From Community Supervision				
None	189	82.2	123	91.1
1	29	12.6	9	6.7
2 or more	12	5.2	3	2.2

drug court members were more likely to have a prior record, the groups were similar among those who had been previously arrested. Similarly, the majority of both groups had not previously been sentenced to community supervision nor had they been unsuccessfully terminated from community supervision.

Drug & Alcohol Abuse History [11]

As illustrated by table 4, the majority (79.5%) of drug court participants were assessed with regard to substance abuse. In addition to receiving a formal assessment, drug court participants were asked a variety of questions pertaining to their drug and alcohol use. The majority of participants reported marijuana as their primary drug of choice followed by alcohol and crack/cocaine. The average age of first alcohol use was 16 for the treatment group and the majority (38.5%) indicated they used alcohol once a week. The typical drug court client began using drugs between the ages of 17 and 18, and 43.2 percent admitted to using drugs on a daily basis. Over half of the participants reported they had at least one family member with a chemical dependency problem. Similarly, 60 percent of the clients had previously received some type of drug treatment. Finally, relatively few of the participants (11.6%) were dual diagnosed.

Treatment Considerations

Drug courts that are able to identify and target various needs other than substance abuse increase the likelihood of reducing recidivism among their clients. In addition, outcome evaluations are enhanced when the researcher is able to determine what happened to the client while under supervision. This may include documenting whether a participant moved to different phases based on progress and the outcome of treatment.

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[11] Comparison group data were not available.

Table 4. Substance Use Severity for the Common Plea Drug Court Group

Characteristics	Drug Court	
	N	%
	(n=788)	
Did Offender Receive Drug Assessment		
Yes	190	79.5
No	49	20.5
Primary Drug of Choice		
Alcohol	65	28.1
Marijuana	82	35.5
Crack/Cocaine	58	25.1
Narcotics	20	8.7
Depressants	6	2.6
Age of First Alcohol Use		
Under 10	36	7.3
10-13	126	25.7
14-17	231	47.0
18-22	79	16.1
23-27	9	1.8
Over 28	10	2.0
Mean	15.9	
Age of First Drug Use		
Under 10	18	3.6
10-13	92	18.4
14-17	257	51.5
18-22	83	16.6
23-27	13	2.6
Over 28	36	7.2
Mean	17.5	
Frequency of Alcohol Use		
Daily	139	30.8
Once a week	174	38.5
Less than once a week	138	30.5
Frequency of Drug Use		
Daily	185	43.2
Once a week	126	29.4
Less than once a week	117	27.3

Table 4 con't. Substance Use Severity for the Common Plea Drug Court Group

Characteristics	Drug Court	
	N	%
	(n=788)	
Family Have Chemical Dependency Problem		
Yes	133	56.8
No	101	43.2
Has Offender Had Previous Drug Treatment		
Yes	143	60.6
No	93	39.4
Is Offender Dual Diagnosed with Drug/Mental		
Yes	26	11.6
No	199	88.4

Throughput data allow us to document the drug court treatment and determine how differences in treatment are related to differences in case outcome. The purpose of this section is to identify treatment needs, services rendered, and retention rates. The specific question addressed is:

- *What are treatment needs and retention rates among drug court participants?*

Treatment Needs

Logically, drug-abusing offenders have drug and alcohol problems, however, they often have other needs in the areas of housing, mental and physical health, family circumstances, employment, and education. Drug court participants were asked to provide information relevant to each of these areas and the interviewer rated whether the problem was chronic, frequent, situational, or non-existent.[12] As indicated by Table 5, a majority of drug court clients reported chronic or frequent disruption in areas drug abuse (94.6%), alcohol abuse (72%), employment, (57.1%), and family (56.6%). In contrast, the majority of respondents reported situational or no problems in areas of housing (60.5%), education (38%), mental health (81.5%), and physical health (76.8%).

Services Referred

The courts were also asked to track the treatment or service referrals made for each participant. As indicated by Table 6, 100 percent were referred to substance abuse treatment, 70 percent to employment, 58 percent to education, 45 percent to housing, 81 percent to family, 57 percent to medical services, and 17 percent to mental health services. While it could be argued that the drug courts' primary goal is to treat substance abuse, the courts could increase their effectiveness by matching services to clients' specific needs. According to the needs identified by the clients in the previous section, it

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[12] Data for this section were available from only two of the Common Pleas drug courts

Table 5. Treatment Needs for the Common Pleas Drug Court Group

Characteristics	Drug Court N (n=788)	%
Drug Abuse		
Chronic, Severe disruption	329	83.9
Frequent disruption	42	10.7
Situational/Occasional problems	13	3.3
No disruption of functioning	8	2.0
Alcohol Abuse		
Chronic, Severe disruption	218	59.2
Frequent disruption	47	12.8
Situational/Occasional problems	64	17.4
No disruption of functioning	39	10.6
Employment		
Chronic, Severe disruption	136	36.5
Frequent disruption	77	20.6
Situational/Occasional problems	69	18.5
No disruption of functioning	91	24.4
Family		
Chronic, Severe disruption	94	25.2
Frequent disruption	117	31.4
Situational/Occasional problems	111	29.8
No disruption of functioning	51	13.7
Housing		
Chronic, Severe disruption	78	22.6
Frequent disruption	58	16.8
Situational/Occasional problems	84	24.3
No disruption of functioning	125	36.2
Education		
Chronic, Severe disruption	84	22.8
Frequent disruption	56	15.2
Situational/Occasional problems	56	15.2
No disruption of functioning	173	46.9

Table 5 con't. Treatment Needs for the Common Pleas Drug Court Group

Characteristics	Drug Court N	%
	(n=788)	
Mental Health		
Chronic, Severe disruption	23	6.7
Frequent disruption	41	11.9
Situational/Occasional problems	90	26.1
No disruption of functioning	191	55.4
Physical Health		
Chronic, Severe disruption	42	12.0
Frequent disruption	39	11.2
Situational/Occasional problems	97	27.8
No disruption of functioning	171	49.0

Table 6. Service Referrals for the Common Pleas Drug Court Participants

Characteristics	Drug Court N	%
	(n=788)	
Referred to Substance Abuse Treatment		
Yes	236	100.0
No	0	0.0
Referred to Employment Services		
Yes	152	70.0
No	65	30.0
Referred to Educational Services		
Yes	125	57.9
No	91	42.1
Referred to Housing Assistance		
Yes	76	44.7
No	94	55.3
Referred to Family Services		
Yes	178	80.5
No	43	19.5
Referred to Medical Services		
Yes	115	57.2
No	86	42.8
Referred to Mental Health Services		
Yes	24	16.7
No	120	83.3

appears that the clients are not receiving services matched to their needs.

Treatment Retention Rates

The retention rate among drug courts across the nation averages 70 percent for drug court participants (Drug Court Programs Office, 1999). The data for the Common Pleas Drug Courts indicate that the treatment agencies were able to retain a majority of clients in treatment[13]. The courts were asked to track clients through the various phases of treatment. Table 7 indicates that 51 percent of the drug court participants began treatment in the residential phase, 46 percent in the intensive outpatient phase, 3 percent in the outpatient phase, and less than 1 percent in the aftercare phase. Of those individuals, 78 percent completed the phase. Of those who did not complete, the majority (43.5%) were referred to another level of care while 35 percent were non-compliant or had absconded. In sum, it appears that the courts are identifying appropriate targets for treatment and retaining a majority of its clients. However, the service referrals should be matched to meet other needs related to criminal behavior.

Case Outcome & Subsequent Criminal Behavior

The main purpose of an outcome evaluation is to determine the impact of the intervention; in this case the Common Pleas drug courts, on behavior. The commonly used measure of behavior is recidivism. Hence, the purpose of this section is to address the recidivism rates between the two groups and identify factors associated with outcome. The research questions to be addressed are:

- *Are Common Pleas Drug Courts effective in reducing recidivism?*

- *What factors predict the likelihood of success/failure?*

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[13] Missing data due to incomplete treatment records limited treatment phase status information on some cases. This data, although informative, should be viewed with caution.

Table 7. Treatment Activity for the Common Pleas Drug Court Participants

Characteristics	Drug Court	
	N	%
	(n=788)	
First Treatment Setting		
Long Term Residential	136	50.9
Short Term Residential	0	0
Intensive Outpatient	122	45.7
Outpatient	8	3.0
Aftercare	1	.4
Outcome of 1st Placement		
Completed phase	159	77.6
Did not complete phase	45	22.4
Reason for Not Completing Placement		
Referred to another level of care	20	43.5
Non-compliance	11	23.9
Absconded	5	10.9
Revoked	6	13.0
Other	4	8.7

Court Reported Violations

Technical violations provide a measure of in-program behavior that may have a significant impact on behavioral changed.[14] Table 8 indicates that 49.2 percent of the drug court clients had at least one court reported violation while under supervision and committed a total of 492 violations.[15] The type of violations committed include new arrests (2.2%), failure to appear (3.9%), positive urine screen (33.3%), absconded (4.7%), non-compliance with treatment (18.3%), and other (37.6%) which may include not reporting to the treatment agency or missing meetings with probation staff.

Drug court judges chose to use a number of sanctions for those individuals who were brought to the court on a violation. Table 8 indicates that in 40 percent of the cases, participants were required to spend a short amount of time in jail, in 15 percent of the cases, participants were required to complete community service, and 17 percent of the cases resulted in participants receiving some other sanctions. Less frequent sanctions included: bench warrants, fines, curfew, time-out, house arrest, intensive supervision, electronic monitoring, increased drug testing, and changes in the intensity of treatment.

Termination Information

Table 9 indicates the termination status of drug court participants. Of those who participated in the program, 35 percent had the original charge that brought them to a drug court dismissed, while 6 percent had their record expunged. With regard to termination status, 31 percent graduated, 35 percent were terminated unsuccessfully, 26 percent absconded, and about 8 percent were identified as failing for some other reason.

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[14] Data were only available on drug court participants for this section.
[15] Data on technical violations were not collected for the first Hamilton County sample.

Table 8. Common Pleas Drug Court Participants' Supervision Activity

Characteristics	Drug Court N (n=242)[16]	%
Court Reported Violation:		
Yes	119	49.2
Type of Violations Reported:		
New Arrest	11	2.2
Failure to Appear	19	3.9
Positive Urine Screen	164	33.3
Absconded	23	4.7
Non-compliant with Treatment	90	18.3
Other	185	37.6
Total	492	100.0
Sanctions Rendered for Violations:		
Bench Warrant	6	1.2
Jail	196	40.1
Fines	20	4.1
Curfew	10	2.0
Community Service	74	15.1
Time Out	2	.4
House Arrest	14	2.9
Intensive Supervision	17	3.5
Electronic Monitoring	19	3.9
Increased Drug Testing	17	3.5
Change in Treatment Intensity	29	5.9
Other	85	17.4
Total	489	100.0

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[16] Data on technical violations was not collected for this first Hamilton County sample (1997 evaluation), thus the participants are excluded from this analysis.

Table 9. Supervision and Outcome for the Common Pleas Drug Court Participants

Characteristics	Drug Court N	% (n=206)
Were Original Charges Dismissed		
Yes	24	34.8
No	45	65.2
Was Defendant's Record Expunged		
Yes	4	5.9
No	64	94.1
Termination Status		
Graduated from Drug Court	63	30.6
Terminated Unsuccessful	73	35.4
Absconded	54	26.2
Other	16	7.8

Rearrest Rates

As illustrated by Table 10, there was a statistically significant difference between the treatment group and comparison group with regard to rearrest. Specifically, about 32 percent of the treatment group was rearrested compared with 44 percent of the comparison group. The new arrest could have occurred either during drug court supervision or following termination. Moreover, though not significant, drug court participants were slightly more likely to have multiple rearrests when compared to the comparison group.

Determinants of Rearrest

In an effort to identify factors associated with recidivism and control for differences between the two groups, a logistic regression analysis was conducted. The characteristics in the model included: gender, race, education, employment, marital status, prior record, and group membership (see Appendix). Time to arrest was included in this analysis as a control for the length of time between initial arrest and rearrest. The results indicated that group, prior record, education, and employment were significantly related to rearrest. As indicated in Figure 1, offenders who were unemployed, did not complete high school, had a prior record, and did not receive drug court services were more likely to be rearrested. It is important to note that participation in the drug court reduced the likelihood of rearrest from 45 percent to 26 percent. Thus, while this analysis does not allow us to delineate the specific treatment component(s) that contributed to a reduction in recidivism, it does allow us to conclude that the Common Pleas drug courts were having a significant effect on recidivism.

Table 10. Common Please Drug Court and Comparison Group Rearrest Information

Characteristics	Drug Court N	% (N = 788)	Comparison N	% (N = 429)
Rearrested for a New Offense:				
Yes	249	31.8	188	44.2
No	535	68.2	237	55.8
$\chi^2 = 18.583$; p=.000				
Arrested Multiple Times:				
Yes	59	66.3	45	64.3
No	30	33.7	25	35.7

Figure 1

Impact of Significant Predictors on Probability of Rearrest
Adult Common Pleas N = 1217
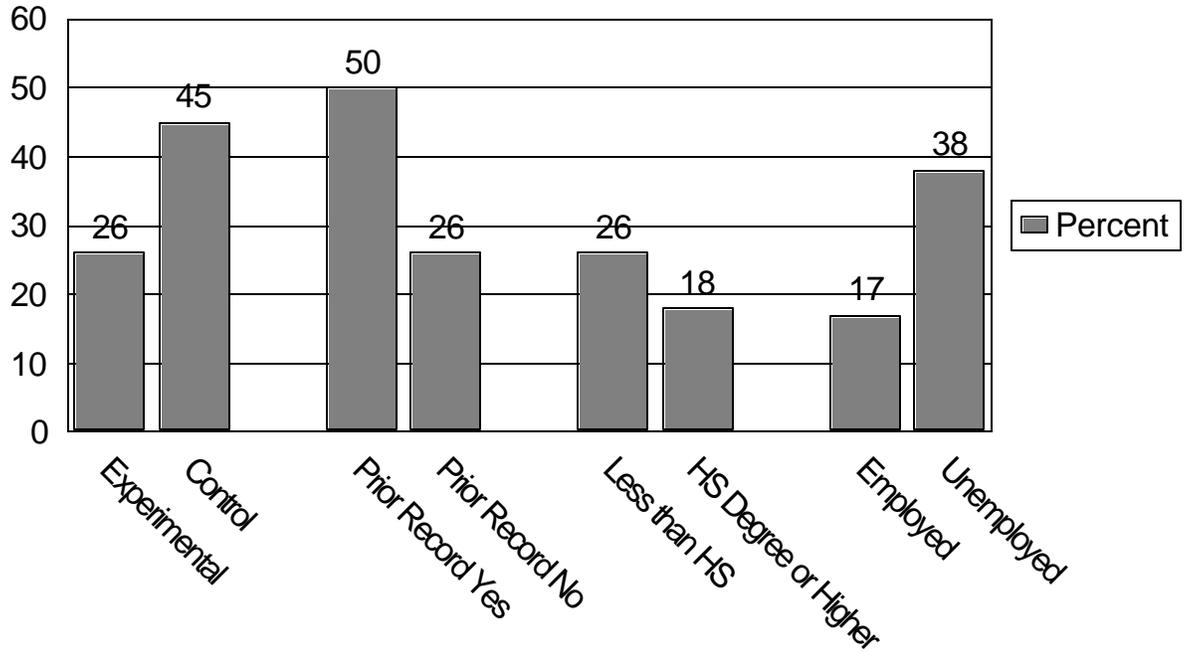
Only the probabilities for the significant factors from the logistic regression are depicted on the figure.

MUNICIPAL DRUG COURT RESULTS

Municipal drug courts differ from common pleas drug courts in that they generally target adult misdemeanor offenders or felony offenders whose charges have been reduced to misdemeanor charges. There are currently 7 municipal drug courts in Ohio. Three were selected for this evaluation: Cuyahoga County (Cleveland), Miami County, and Summit County (Akron).

Similar to the Common Pleas Drug Courts analysis, social demographic data were collected in an effort to describe the municipal drug court and comparison groups to investigate whether differences in outcome were related to individual differences within the samples. This section profiles the two groups based on basic demographic characteristics such as race, gender, age, marital status, education level, employment status, current offense characteristics, disposition, and criminal history. This section will address the following questions:

- *What are the characteristics of the offenders served by the Municipal Drug Courts in Ohio?*

- *What, if any, differences exist between the Municipal Drug Court and comparison groups with regard to background characteristics?*

Social Demographic Information

As indicated by Table 11, drug court participants and comparison group members shared a number of characteristics and have significant differences only in regards to education and employment. For both groups, individuals were likely to be non-white, male, and not married, with the average age close to 30. However, drug court participants were significantly more likely to have graduated from high school and more likely to have full time employment. Both of these differences were statistically significant.

Table 11. Background Characteristics of the Municipal Drug Court and Comparison Groups

Characteristics	Drug Court N (n=556)	%	Comparison N (n=288)	%
Race				
White	253	45.5	93	32.3
Non - White	303	54.5	195	67.7
Gender				
Male	403	72.9	224	78.0
Female	150	27.1	63	22.0
Age				
18-22	139	26.2	55	39.0
23-28	83	15.7	20	14.2
29-34	92	17.4	16	11.3
35-40	117	22.1	24	17.0
41 & above	99	18.7	26	18.4
Mean	31.58		29.72	
Marital Status				
Married	83	15.8	29	12.0
Not Married	443	84.2	212	88.0
Highest Grade Completed				
Less than High School	203	38.7	109	53.7
High School Graduate	322	61.3	94	46.3

$\chi^2 = 13.500$; p = .000

	Drug Court N	%	Comparison N	%
Hours Per Week Worked				
35 hours or more	218	43.1	58	25.9
15-34 hours a week	56	11.1	42	18.8
Less then 15 hours	232	45.8	124	55.4

$\chi^2 = 21.840$; p = .000

Ns may not total 556 or 288 due to missing data. This pertains to all tables and figures for Municipal Drug Courts.

Offense and Disposition Information

Similar to findings regarding the common pleas drug courts, participants in the municipal drug courts were similar to comparison group members in terms of current charge, but differed in terms of how they were treated by the court. As indicated by Table 12, members of both groups were likely to have been charged with a drug offense and were convicted. Despite these similarities, there were many significant differences with regard to disposition. Drug court participants were significantly more likely to have received drug treatment[17], intensive supervision, drug testing, and court costs and fines. In contrast, members of the comparison group were significantly more likely to have received license suspension, fees, work detail, and community service as part of their disposition. Finally, there were no significant differences in terms of electronic monitoring and restitution. In both cases, less than 3 percent of the participants received these sanctions.

Criminal History

While significant differences exist between the groups in terms of having a prior record, individuals with prior records looked rather similar across groups as indicated by Table 13. For instance, in both groups, the majority of individuals who had previously been arrested had not been arrested for felony or delinquent offenses. However, close to half of each group had been arrested on misdemeanor charges at least twice. Finally, while the groups were similar in regards to prior community supervision, they differed in

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[17] We do not know the reason that referral to drug treatment was not made in every case, however, there are several possible explanations. For example, the offender might have absconded prior to referral, or the offender was convicted on new charges prior to a referral being made.

Table 12. Offense & Disposition Information for Municipal Drug Court & Comparison Groups

Characteristics	Drug Court N (n=556)	%	Comparison N (n=288)	%
Current Charge:				
Drug	484	95.7	238	95.6
Property	9	1.8	5	2.0
Person	3	.6	5	2.0
PV	6	1.2	0	0
Other	4	.8	1	.4
Legal Status				
Convicted/Adjudicated	414	94.1	137	71.0
Treatment In Lieu	26	5.9	50	25.9
Preconviction/Adjudication	0	0	6	3.1
Disposition Drug Treatment				
Yes	539	97.0	99	77.3
No	17	3.0	29	22.7

$\chi^2 = 30.341; p = .000$

	Drug Court N	%	Comparison N	%
Disposition Intensive Supervision				
Yes	335	99.7	9	6.7
No	1	.3	126	93.3

$\chi^2 = 423.283; p = .000$

	Drug Court N	%	Comparison N	%
Disposition Drug Testing				
Yes	440	99.5	150	86.2
No	2	.5	24	13.8

$\chi^2 = 54.964; p = .000$

	Drug Court N	%	Comparison N	%
Disposition Court Cost and Fines				
Yes	336	99.7	152	89.9
No	1	.3	17	10.1

$\chi^2 = 31.267; p = .000$

	Drug Court N	%	Comparison N	%
Disposition License Suspension				
Yes	11	3.3	61	44.9
No	324	96.7	75	55.1

$\chi^2 = 129.076; p = .000$

Table 12 con't. Offense & Disposition Information for Municipal Drug Court & Comparison Groups

Characteristics	Drug Court N (n=556)	%	Comparison N (n=288)	%
Disposition Fees				
Yes	13	3.9	134	80.2
No	323	96.1	33	19.8
$\chi^2 = 314.563$; p = .000				
Disposition Work Detail				
Yes	1	.3	24	17.8
No	338	99.7	111	82.2
$\chi^2 = 59.067$; p = .000				
Disposition Electronic Monitoring				
Yes	7	2.0	3	2.2
No	335	98.0	133	97.8
Disposition Community Service				
Yes	7	2.1	55	32.7
No	331	97.9	113	67.3
$\chi^2 = 98.163$; p = .000				
Disposition Restitution				
Yes	2	0.6	2	1.5
No	333	99.4	134	98.5

Table 13. Criminal History for the Municipal Drug Court & Comparison Group

Characteristics	Drug Court N (n=556)	Drug Court %	Comparison N (n=288)	Comparison %
Prior Record (Adult or Juvenile)				
Yes	335	69.1	169	71.3
No	150	30.9	68	28.7
Number of Prior Felony Arrests				
None	319	75.8	141	71.6
1	76	18.1	35	17.8
2 or more	26	6.2	21	10.7
Number of Prior Misdemeanor Arrests				
None	162	34.0	85	39.9
1	70	14.7	31	14.6
2	204	51.3	97	45.5
Number of Prior Delinquent Arrests				
None	356	85.8	150	86.2
1	26	6.3	11	6.3
2 or more	33	8.0	13	7.5
Number of Prior Sentences to Community Supervision				
None	309	72.7	116	72.5
1	88	20.7	36	22.5
2 or more	28	6.6	8	5.0
Unsuccessful Terminations from Community Supervision				
None	351	85.0	133	95.0
1	43	10.4	5	3.6
2 or more	19	4.6	2	1.4

$\chi^2 = 9.604; p = .000$

terms of their performance on such supervision. Specifically, with regard to prior community supervision, drug court participants were significantly more likely to have been unsuccessfully terminated than the comparison group.

Drug and Alcohol Abuse History [18]

Table 14 illustrates the drug and alcohol use of drug court participants. Similar to the Common Pleas drug courts, the vast majority (96.6%) of participants were formally assessed using some type of substance abuse assessment. In addition to such assessment, participants were asked to identify their drug of choice, age of first use, and frequency of use. The majority of drug court participants identified crack/cocaine (35.3%) as their primary drug of choice followed by marijuana (32.6%), and alcohol (36.1%).

On average, participants were 16 when they began using alcohol and first tried drugs at the age of 18. Drugs were used more frequently than alcohol, as close to 80 percent of the respondents reported using drugs at least once a week while less than 60 percent used alcohol that frequently. Finally, participants were asked about family history, treatment history, and mental health issues. The typical drug court client reported no prior drug treatment, no family members with chemical dependency, and was not dual diagnosed with drug dependency and mental illness.

Treatment Considerations

As noted in the discussion regarding the Common Pleas Drug Courts programs, courts that were able to identify and target various needs other than substance abuse increase the likelihood of reducing recidivism among their clients. As such, knowledge regarding what happened to the client while under supervision enhances outcome

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[18] Data for this section were only available for drug court participants.

Table 14. Substance Use Severity for the Municipal Drug Court Group

Characteristics	Drug Court N	% (n=556)
Did Offender Receive Drug Assessment		
Yes	488	96.6
No	17	3.4
Primary Drug of Choice		
Alcohol	126	26.1
Marijuana	157	32.6
Crack/Cocaine	170	35.3
Narcotics	17	3.5
Depressants	0	0
Stimulants	4	.8
Hallucinogens	1	.2
Other	7	1.5
Age of First Alcohol Use		
Under 10	23	5.2
10-13	84	19.0
14-17	216	48.9
18-22	104	23.5
23-27	6	1.4
Over 28	9	2.0
Mean	16.34	
Age of First Drug Use		
Under 10	11	2.5
10-13	68	15.5
14-17	183	41.8
18-22	109	24.9
23-27	29	6.6
Over 28	37	8.4
Mean	18.31	
Frequency of Alcohol Use		
Daily	67	15.2
Once a week	186	42.3
Less than once a week	187	42.5
Frequency of Drug Use		
Daily	178	39.9
Once a week	163	36.5
Less than once a week	105	23.5

Table 14 con't. Substance Use Severity for the Municipal Drug Court Group

	Drug Court	
	N	%
Characteristics	(n=556)	

Family Have Chemical Dependency Problem

Yes	159	38.9
No	250	61.1

Has Offender Had Previous Drug Treatment

Yes	207	45.9
No	244	54.1

Is Offender Dual Diagnosed with Drug/Mental

Yes	45	10.8
No	371	89.2

evaluations. Therefore, the purpose of this section is to identify treatment needs, services rendered, and retention rates. The specific question addressed is:

- *What are treatment needs and retention rates among municipal drug court participants?*

Treatment Needs

As previously noted, drug court participants were likely to experience problems in addition to drug and alcohol problems. As illustrated by Table 15, the majority of municipal drug court participants reported having chronic or frequent difficulties with drug abuse and close to half of the clients indicated having significant employment difficulties. In contrast, the majority of participants reported situational problems with alcohol abuse and no difficulties in terms of family, housing, education, mental health, and physical health.

Services Referred

As expected, the majority of drug court participants (96.6%) were referred to substance abuse treatment. Treatment referrals were also made for other services. Examination of Table 16 finds that 28 percent were referred to employment services, 26 percent to education, 13 percent for housing, 10 percent for medical, and 16 percent for mental health services. As previously noted, drug courts could improve their effectiveness by matching services to specific client needs. A review of the needs identified by clients in the previous section indicated that drug court participants were not always being matched to services.

Table 15. Treatment Needs for the Municipal Drug Court Group

Characteristics	Drug Court N	% (n=556)
Drug Abuse		
Chronic, Severe disruption	150	42.7
Frequent disruption	118	33.6
Situational/Occasional problems	66	18.8
No disruption of functioning	17	4.8
Alcohol Abuse		
Chronic, Severe disruption	40	11.8
Frequent disruption	96	28.3
Situational/Occasional problems	126	37.2
No disruption of functioning	77	22.7
Employment		
Chronic, Severe disruption	56	17.2
Frequent disruption	98	30.1
Situational/Occasional problems	79	24.2
No disruption of functioning	93	28.5
Family		
Chronic, Severe disruption	25	7.9
Frequent disruption	74	23.4
Situational/Occasional problems	104	32.9
No disruption of functioning	113	35.8
Housing		
Chronic, Severe disruption	37	11.9
Frequent disruption	41	13.2
Situational/Occasional problems	67	21.6
No disruption of functioning	165	53.2
Education		
Chronic, Severe disruption	21	6.4
Frequent disruption	57	17.5
Situational/Occasional problems	54	16.6
No disruption of functioning	194	59.5

Table 15 con't. Treatment Needs for the Municipal Drug Court Group

Characteristics	Drug Court N (n=556)	%
Mental Health		
Chronic, Severe disruption	12	3.8
Frequent disruption	28	9.0
Situational/Occasional problems	39	12.5
No disruption of functioning	233	74.7
Physical Health		
Chronic, Severe disruption	10	3.2
Frequent disruption	23	7.5
Situational/Occasional problems	37	12.0
No disruption of functioning	238	77.3

Table 16. Service Referrals for Municipal Drug Court Participants

Characteristics	Drug Court N	%
	(n=556)	
Referred to Substance Abuse Treatment		
Yes	393	96.6
No	14	3.4
Referred to Employment Services		
Yes	88	28.0
No	226	72.0
Referred to Educational Services		
Yes	82	25.8
No	236	74.2
Referred to Housing Assistance		
Yes	41	13.2
No	269	86.8
Referred to Family Services		
Yes	30	9.7
No	279	90.3
Referred to Medical Services		
Yes	30	9.5
No	287	90.5
Referred to Mental Health Services		
Yes	48	15.6
No	259	84.4

Treatment Retention Rates

The data in Table 17 indicate that the treatment providers for Municipal Drug Courts were able to retain a majority of their clients in treatment[19]. Roughly 15 percent of the participants entered residential services for the first phase of treatment while 32 percent of the individuals were referred for intensive outpatient services, 53 percent to outpatient, and three individuals (1%) received aftercare services. Of these individuals, 64 percent successfully completed the phase. Individuals who failed to complete the phase did so for a variety of reasons. Nearly 36 percent were non-compliant, 33 percent absconded, 17 percent were referred to another level of care, less than 1 percent were revoked, and 13 percent did not complete for other reasons.

Case Outcome & Subsequent Criminal Behavior

This section determines the impact of the municipal drug courts on recidivism. Hence, the purpose of this section is to address the recidivism rates between the two groups and identify factors associated with outcome. Similar to the preceding analyses on Common Pleas Drug Courts, the research questions to be addressed in this section are:

- *Are Municipal Drug Courts effective in reducing recidivism?*

- *What factors predict the likelihood of success/failure?*

Court Reported Violations

Technical violations provide an indicator of in-program behavior that may be related to outcome. Table 18 indicates that 32.9 percent of the municipal drug court participants committed at least one violation during their supervision.[20] The most common type of violation was a positive urine screen (35.8%), followed by non-

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[19] This data, though informative, should be interpreted with caution due to missing data.
[20] Data on technical violations were not collected for Summit County.

Table 17. Treatment Activity for the Municipal Drug Court Participants

Characteristics	Drug Court N (n=556)	%
First Treatment Setting		
Long Term Residential	28	8.5
Short Term Residential	19	5.8
Intensive Outpatient	104	31.5
Outpatient	176	53.3
Aftercare	3	.9
Outcome of 1st Placement		
Completed phase	208	64.0
Did not complete phase	117	36.0
Reason for Not Completing Placement		
Referred to another level of care	20	17.1
Non-compliance	42	35.9
Absconded	39	33.3
Revoked	1	.9
Other	15	12.8

Table 18. Municipal Drug Court Participants' Supervision Activity

Characteristics	Drug Court N (n=222)[21]	%
Court Reported Violation:		
Yes	73	32.9
Type of Violations Reported		
New Arrest	27	10.6
Failure to Appear	10	3.9
Positive Urine Screen	91	35.8
Absconded	22	8.7
Non-Compliance with Treatment	54	21.3
Other	50	19.7
Total	254	100.0
Sanctions Rendered for Violations:		
Bench Warrant	2	2.2
Jail	14	15.2
Curfew	4	4.3
Community Service	10	10.9
House Arrest	25	27.2
Electronic Monitoring	3	3.3
Change in Treatment Intensity	4	4.3
Increased Court Observation	2	2.2
Other	28	30.4
Total	92	100.0

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[21] Data on technical violations were not collected for the Summit County sample, thus the participants are excluded from this analysis.

compliance (21.3%), and other, non-stipulated violations such as failing to meet with probation officers (19.7%). Other violations included new arrests (10.6%), absconding (8.7%), and failure to appear (3.9%). Drug court judges used a variety of sanctions with the most common sanction (30.4%) being "other," a sanction different from the identified sanctions. Additional common sanctions were house arrest (27.2%), jail (15.2%), and community service (10.9%). Less used sanctions included issuing a bench warrant, curfew, electronic monitoring, changes in treatment intensity, and increased court observations.

Termination Information

Table 19 illustrates the termination status of drug court participants. Of those who participated in the program, 58 percent had their original charges dismissed while only 12 percent had their record expunged. In terms of status at termination, 44 percent graduated from the program, 39 percent were terminated unsuccessfully, 19 percent absconded, and 3 percent were terminated for other reasons.

Rearrest Rates

Table 20 indicates a statistically significant difference between the municipal drug court participants and comparison group members with regards to rearrest. Specifically, 49 percent of the comparison group members were rearrested versus 41 percent of the drug court participants. Not only were members of the comparison group more likely to be rearrested, they were significantly more likely to be rearrested multiple times. Specifically, 39 percent of the comparison group members had multiple new arrests compared to only 26 percent of the drug court participants.

Table 19. Supervision and Outcome for the Municipal Drug Court Participants

Characteristics	Drug Court N	%
	(n=358)	
Were Original Charges Dismissed		
Yes	196	58.2
No	141	41.8
Was Defendant's Record Expunged		
Yes	38	11.6
No	291	88.4
Termination Status		
Graduated from Drug Court	158	44.1
Terminated Unsuccessful	121	33.8
Expiration of Term	1	.3
Absconded	67	18.7
Other	11	3.1

Table 20. Municipal Drug Court and Comparison Group Rearrest Information

Characteristics	Drug Court N (N = 556)	%	Comparison N (N = 288)	%
Rearrested for a New Offense:				
Yes	208	41.0	135	49.1
No	299	59.0	140	50.9
$\chi^2 = 4.710$; p=.030				
Arrested Multiple Times:				
Yes	77	26.3	72	39.3
No	216	73.7	111	60.7
$\chi^2 = 8.941$; p=.003				

Determinants of Rearrest

Similar to the analyses for the common pleas drug courts, logistic regression was used to identify factors associated with recidivism. To predicted likelihood of rearrest several factors were used in the model including: sex, race, education, employment, marital status, prior record, time to arrest, and group membership (see Appendix). As indicated in Figure 2, individuals who were non-white, members of the comparison group, failed to graduate from high school, unemployed, and were at risk for longer periods of time were more likely to be rearrested. Thus, it can be concluded that participating in a municipal drug court significantly reduced an offender's probability of recidivating.

Figure 2

Impact of Significant Predictors on Probability of Rearrest
Adult Municipal Court N = 884
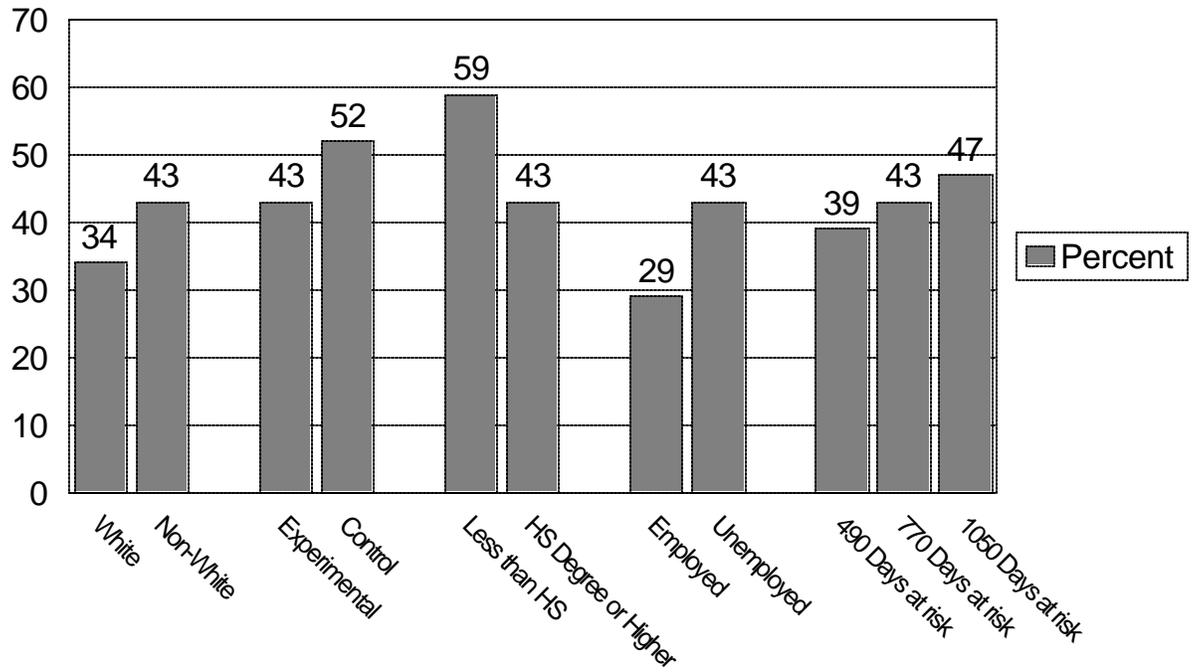
Only the probabilities for the significant factors from the logistic regression are depicted on the figure.

JUVENILE DRUG COURT RESULTS

Juvenile Drug Courts generally target juveniles between the ages of 12 and 18 who have been charged with drug or alcohol related offenses. Currently, there are 15 juvenile drug courts in operation in the State of Ohio. The juvenile drug courts included in this evaluation are Belmont County, Montgomery County, and Summit County. The counties vary on a number of characteristics including size and region.

As with the previous analyses, data were collected on social demographic factors in order to describe the juvenile drug courts and comparison group members and to determine whether any differences in outcome were related to individual differences within the samples. Furthermore, identifying the population served by juvenile drug courts allows us to examine whether case outcomes were influenced by any of these factors. Thus, this section profiles the two groups in terms of race, gender, age, education, employment, current offense information, disposition, and criminal history. Specifically, this section addresses the following research questions:

- ***What are the characteristics of the offenders served by juvenile drug courts in Ohio?***

- ***What if any differences exist between the juvenile drug court and comparison groups with regard to background characteristics?***

Social Demographic Information

As illustrated by Table 21, there were a number of differences between the juvenile drug court participants and the comparison group members. The groups differed significantly in terms of race, education, and employment status. Specifically, participants of the drug courts were more likely to be white, employed, and had completed more years of school than members of the comparison groups. The groups

Table 21. Background Characteristics of the Juvenile Drug Court & Comparison Groups

Characteristics	Drug Court N (n= 310)	%	Comparison N (n=134)	%
Race				
White	216	69.7	76	56.7
Non-White	94	30.3	58	43.3
χ^2=6.981; p=.008				
Gender				
Male	234	75.5	97	72.4
Female	74	23.9	37	27.6
Age				
13	6	2.0	9	6.7
14	30	9.8	13	9.7
15	83	27.0	39	26.9
16	97	31.6	31	23.1
17	81	26.4	34	25.4
18	5	1.6	2	1.5
Mean	15.77		15.58	
χ^2=21.680; p=.027				
Highest Grade Completed				
4	1	0.3	0	0.0
5	0	0.0	1	0.7
6	5	1.6	5	3.7
7	25	8.1	15	11.2
8	81	26.1	33	24.6
9	101	32.6	39	28.4
10	62	20.0	17	12.7
11	17	5.5	16	11.9
Completed High School	4	1.3	0	0.0
χ^2=16.905; p=.05				
Employment Status				
Employed	45	14.5	18	13.4
Unemployed	196	63.2	104	77.6
χ^2=12.019; p=.002				

Ns may not equal 310 or 134 due to missing data. This pertains to all table and figures for Juvenile Drug Courts

were similar in terms of gender and age, with the majority of both groups being male with an average age of 16.

Offense and Disposition Information

The two groups also had many differences in terms of current charge and disposition. As reported in Table 22, while the majority of both groups were charged with property offenses, they were treated differently. Specifically, there were significant differences in terms of legal status and sentence. Comparison group members were more likely to be adjudicated and received community supervision. Although the majority of drug court participants were also adjudicated and placed on community supervision, they were more likely than the comparison group members to receive treatment in lieu of adjudication and be placed on a diversionary status. Moreover, the groups differed in terms of disposition. Drug court participants were more likely to receive drug treatment[22], intensive supervision, and drug testing while members of the comparison group were more likely to have their license suspended and be ordered to pay restitution.

Criminal History

Members of both groups were similar in terms of having a prior record but different in terms of what their prior records looked like. Table 23 indicates that the majority of both groups had a prior record; however, the drug court participants were more likely to have one or more felony arrests and two or more misdemeanor arrests. Additionally, participants in the juvenile drug courts were also more likely to have had

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[22] We do not know the reason that referral to drug treatment was not made in every case, however, there are several possible explanations. For example, the offender might have absconded prior to referral, or the offender was convicted on new charges prior to a referral being made.

Table 22. Offense & Disposition Information for Juvenile Drug Court & Control Group

Characteristics	Drug Court N (n= 310)	%	Comparison N (n=134)	%
Current Charge:				
Drug	78	33.6	46	39.7
Property	98	42.6	52	44.8
Person	23	9.9	6	5.2
Other	33	14.2	12	10.3
Legal Status				
Convicted/Adjudicated	203	79.3	122	96.1
Treatment In Lieu	53	20.7	4	3.1
Preconviction/Adjudication	0	0.0	1	0.8

$\chi^2=22.403$; p=.000

	Drug Court N	%	Comparison N	%
Sentence				
Community Supervision	178	72.1	87	79.8
Secure Placement	4	1.6	0	0.0
Residential	2	0.8	6	5.5
Diversion	63	25.5	16	14.7

$\chi^2=11.056$; p=.001

	Drug Court N	%	Comparison N	%
Disposition Drug Treatment				
Yes	236	94.0	99	83.2
No	15	6.0	20	16.8

$\chi^2=11.056$; p=.001

	Drug Court N	%	Comparison N	%
Disposition Intensive Supervision				
Yes	182	85.4	75	63.6
No	31	14.6	43	36.4

$\chi^2=20.955$; p=.000

	Drug Court N	%	Comparison N	%
Disposition Drug Testing				
Yes	229	93.5	103	85.8
No	16	6.5	17	14.2

$\chi^2=5.711$; p=.017

	Drug Court N	%	Comparison N	%
Disposition Court Costs and Fines				
Yes	11	5.6	9	7.6
No	185	94.4	109	92.4
Disposition License Suspension				
Yes	3	1.5	17	14.4
No	192	98.5	101	85.6

$\chi^2=20.352$; p=.000

Table 22, con't. Offense & Disposition Information for Juvenile Drug Court & Comparison Group

Characteristics	Drug Court N (n=310)	%	Comparison N (n= 134)	%
Disposition Fees				
Yes	5	2.6	0	0.0
No	190	97.4	118	100.0
Disposition Work Detail				
Yes	4	2.1	0	0.0
No	191	97.9	118	100.0
Disposition Electronic Monitoring				
Yes	16	7.9	5	4.2
No	187	92.9	114	95.8
Disposition Community Service				
Yes	15	7.4	14	11.9
No	188	92.6	104	88.1
Disposition Restitution				
Yes	21	10.0	22	18.6
No	189	90.0	96	81.4

χ^2=4.956; p=.026

Table 23. Criminal History for the Juvenile Drug Court & Comparison Group

Characteristics	Drug Court		Comparison	
	N	%	N	%
	(n=310)		(n= 134)	
Prior Record (Adult or Juvenile)				
Yes	190	62.7	84	62.7
No	113	37.3	50	37.3
Number of Prior Felony Arrests				
None	195	70.7	110	82.1
1	41	14.9	15	11.2
2 or more	40	14.5	9	6.7
χ^2=7.036; p=.03				
Number of Prior Misdemeanor Arrests				
None	129	43.0	59	44.0
1	45	15.0	34	25.4
2 or more	126	42.0	41	30.6
χ^2=8.628; p=.013				
Number of Prior Delinquent Arrests				
None	189	65.4	106	79.1
1	41	14.2	13	9.7
2 or more	59	20.4	15	11.2
χ^2=8.359; p=.015				
Number of Prior Sentences to Community Supervision				
None	231	74.8	98	73.1
1	42	13.6	23	17.2
2 or more	36	11.7	13	9.7
Unsuccessful Terminations from Community Supervision				
None	291	94.2	123	91.8
1	13	4.2	7	5.2
2 or more	5	1.6	4	3.0
Runaway				
Yes	79	31.5	32	25.6
No	172	68.5	93	74.4
School Suspensions				
Yes	201	72.3	54	43.5
No	77	27.7	70	56.5
χ^2=30.565; p=.000				
Truancy				
Yes	201	76.1	53	43.1
No	63	23.9	70	56.9
χ^2=40.625; p=.000				

two or more arrests for delinquent offenses.   Despite these significant differences, the majority of participants in both groups had not previously been sentenced to, nor had they had prior unsuccessfully terminations from community supervision. Moreover, the majority of both groups did not have a history of running away. Finally, the groups were significantly different in terms of school suspensions and truancy.   Specifically, participants in the juvenile drug courts were more likely to have a history of both school suspensions and truancy.

Drug & Alcohol Abuse History

Table 24 provides a picture of substance abuse severity for each group. There were several similarities between the groups. On average, members of both groups began using both drugs and alcohol at the age of 13, denied having family members with chemical dependency problems, and had not received a dual diagnosis of chemical dependency and mental illness. However, differences emerge with regards to drug of choice, frequency of use, and prior drug treatment. In both groups, the majority of participants identified marijuana as their drug of choice followed by alcohol; however, the drug court group reported more frequent use. For example, a majority of both groups reported using alcohol less than once a week; however, members of the comparison group were significantly more likely to use less than once a week. Moreover, drug court participants were significantly more likely to use drugs at least once a week whereas members of the comparison group were more likely to report using drugs less than once a week. Finally, members of the drug court were significantly more likely to have received previous drug treatment.

Treatment Considerations

Juveniles, like adults, were likely to experience problems in addition to substance abuse. Courts that are able to identify and target such needs increase the likelihood of

Table 24. Substance Use Severity for the Juvenile Drug Court & Comparison Group

	Drug Court		Comparison	
	N	%	N	%
Characteristics	(n= 310)		(n=134)	
Did Offender Receive Drug Assessment				
Yes	269	100.0	126	100.0
No	0	0.0	0	0.0
Primary Drug of Choice				
Alcohol	47	17.6	20	23.0
Marijuana	215	80.5	59	67.8
Crack/Cocaine	2	0.7	0	0.0
Hallucinogens	2	0.7	1	1.0
Other	1	0.4	7	8.0
χ^2=20.239; p=.000				
Age of First Alcohol Use				
Under 10	16	6.6	6	8.8
10-11	27	11.1	6	8.8
12-13	89	36.6	17	25.0
14-15	95	39.1	34	50.0
16-17	16	6.6	5	7.3
Mean	13.03		13.23	
Age of First Drug Use				
Under 10	16	5.8	3	4.1
10-11	33	12.0	8	10.8
12-13	107	39.1	24	32.4
14-15	105	38.3	30	40.5
16-17	13	4.7	9	12.2
Mean	13.15		13.34	
Frequency of Alcohol Use				
Daily	15	5.7	4	4.2
Once a week	73	27.8	13	13.5
Less than once a week	175	66.5	79	82.3
χ^2=8.712; p=.013				
Frequency of Drug Use				
Daily	73	26.5	18	18.4
Once a week	115	41.8	25	25.5
Less than once a week	87	31.6	55	56.1
χ^2=18.479; p=.000				

Table 24 con't. Substance Use Severity for Juvenile Drug Court & Comparison Group

	Drug Court		Comparison	
	N	%	N	%
Characteristics	(n=310)		(n=134)	
Family Have Chemical Dependency Problem				
Yes	93	36.2	22	23.7
No	164	63.8	71	76.3
Has Offender Had Previous Drug Treatment				
Yes	97	34.4	22	23.9
No	185	65.6	70	76.1
χ^2=4.860; p=.027				
Is Offender Dual Diagnosed with Drug/Mental				
Yes	23	9.7	7	7.4
No	213	90.3	87	92.6

reducing recidivism among their clients. Thus, knowledge regarding what happens to drug court participants while in the program enhances outcome evaluations. Therefore, the purpose of this section is to identify treatment needs, service referrals, and retention rates. Specifically, the following question is addressed:

- ***What are the treatment needs and retention rates among juvenile drug court participants?***

Treatment Needs

Substance-abusing offenders obviously have alcohol or drug problems but are also likely to have other needs in the areas of housing, mental health and physical health, family circumstances, employment, and education. Table 25 indicates the self-reported needs of juvenile drug court participants. As expected, the majority of clients indicated having chronic or frequent problems with drug abuse while alcohol abuse was reported to be situational. Juveniles felt they had only situational or no problems in the other areas. Specifically, a majority of participants reported situational needs in terms of family and education, and no needs in regards to employment, housing, and mental and physical health.

Services Referred

In addition to inquiring about needs, courts were also asked to track the service referrals made for each participant. As expected, Table 26 illustrates that 94 percent of the participants were referred to substance abuse treatment while a minority were referred to employment (5.1%), education (12.4%), housing (1.0%), family (8.1%), medical (1.1%), and mental health services (11.2%). As with the other courts, it is likely that the juvenile drug courts could improve their effectiveness by better matching services to identified needs.

Table 25. Treatment Needs for the Juvenile Drug Court Group

Characteristics	Drug Court N	% (n=310)
Drug Abuse		
Chronic, Severe disruption `	45	22.4
Frequent disruption	78	38.8
Situational/Occasional Problems	73	36.3
No disruption of functioning	5	2.5
Alcohol Abuse		
Chronic, Severe disruption	26	13.1
Frequent disruption	31	15.7
Situational/Occasional Problems	86	43.4
No disruption of functioning	55	27.8
Employment		
Chronic, Severe disruption	0	0.0
Frequent disruption	1	0.5
Situational/Occasional Problems	25	13.0
No disruption of functioning	167	86.5
Family		
Chronic, Severe disruption	16	8.2
Frequent disruption	55	28.2
Situational/Occasional Problems	80	41.0
No disruption of functioning	44	22.6
Housing		
Chronic, Severe disruption	1	0.5
Frequent disruption	20	10.3
Situational/Occasional Problems	39	20.1
No disruption of functioning	134	69.1
Education		
Chronic, Severe disruption	27	13.9
Frequent disruption	43	22.2
Situational/Occasional Problems	69	35.6
No disruption of functioning	55	28.4

Table 25 con't. Treatment Needs for the Juvenile Drug Court Group

Characteristics	Drug Court N (n=310)	%
Mental Health		
Chronic, Severe disruption	5	2.6
Frequent disruption	15	7.7
Situational/Occasional Problems	54	27.7
No disruption of functioning	121	62.1
Physical Health		
Chronic, Severe disruption	1	0.5
Frequent disruption	5	2.6
Situational/Occasional Problems	27	13.9
No disruption of functioning	161	83.0

Table 26. Service Referrals for Juvenile Drug Court Participants

Characteristics	Drug Court N (n=310)	%
Referred to Substance Abuse Treatment		
Yes	119	94.4
No	7	5.6
Referred to Employment Services		
Yes	5	5.1
No	93	94.9
Referred to Educational Services		
Yes	12	12.4
No	85	87.6
Referred to Housing Assistance		
Yes	1	1.0
No	95	99.0
Referred to Family Services		
Yes	8	8.1
No	91	91.9
Referred to Medical Services		
Yes	1	1.1
No	94	98.9
Referred to Mental Health Services		
Yes	11	11.2
No	87	88.8

Treatment Retention Rates

Table 27 indicates the majority of drug court participants remained in treatment throughout the first phase of treatment. Roughly 26% percent of the participants received residential services while 61 percent were referred to intensive outpatient services and only 3 clients (3.3%) began the first phase of treatment in aftercare. Of these individuals, 79 percent completed the first phase of treatment. The majority of those who did not complete treatment were non-compliant (61.5%).

Case Outcome and Subsequent Criminal Behavior

The main purpose of an outcome evaluation is to determine the impact of the intervention on subsequent behavior. Like the previous analyses, behavior was measured as recidivism or rearrest. The purpose of this section, therefore, is to examine the recidivism rates between the two groups and identify the factors associated with outcome. This section addresses the following questions:

- *Are juvenile drug courts effective in reducing recidivism?*

- *What factors predict the likelihood of success/failure?*

Court Reported Violations

Technical violations provide a measure of behavior while under supervision. As illustrated by Table 28, 65 percent of the juvenile drug court participants committed at least one violation. The most common types of violations were new arrests (33.0%), other[23] (31.5%), and positive urine screens (13.2%). Judges had a variety of sanctions available to them but most often used jail, community service, house arrest, or "other"[24]

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[23] The category "other" includes behaviors such as failing to report to a probation officer or treatment provider.
[24] This category includes sanctions such as essay writing and short-term (4 hour) holds in detention.

Table 27. Treatment Activity for Juvenile Drug Court Participants

Characteristics	Drug Court N	% (n=310)
First Treatment Setting		
Long Term Residential	19	21.1
Short Term Residential	13	14.4
Intensive Outpatient	55	61.1
Outpatient	3	3.3
Outcome of 1st Placement		
Completed phase	51	78.5
Did not complete phase	14	21.5
Reason for Not Completing Placement		
Referred to another level of care	1	7.7
Non-compliance	8	61.5
Absconded	3	7.7
Revoked	0	0.0
Other	1	7.7

Table 28. Juvenile Drug Court Participants' Supervision Activity

Characteristics	Drug Court N (n=310)	%
Court Reported Violation		
Yes	201	64.8
Type of Violation Reported		
New Arrest	708	33.0
Failure to Appear	177	8.3
Positive Urine Screen	284	13.2
Absconded	82	3.8
Non-compliant with treatment	172	8.0
Other	675	31.5
Total	2,098	100
Sanctions Rendered for Violations		
Bench Warrant	105	4.9
Work Detail	8	0.4
Jail	298	13.9
Fines	34	1.6
Curfew	15	0.7
Community Service	156	7.3
House Arrest	141	6.6
Intensive Supervision	19	0.9
Electronic Monitoring	38	1.8
Increased Drug Testing	2	0.1
Change in Treatment Intensity	56	2.6
Increased Court Observation	14	0.7
Other	327	15.3

A number of youth reported many multiple violations with a range from 1 to 38.

sanctions. Less frequently used sanctions include bench warrants, fines, and electronic monitoring.

Termination Information

Table 29 reports the termination status of drug court participants. Of those who participated in the program, 39 percent had their original charge dismissed and 34 percent had their record expunged. With regard to termination status, 49 percent graduated from drug court while 36 percent were terminated unsuccessfully. The remaining 15 percent were terminated for other reasons such as moving out of the county.

Rearrest Rates

There is a statistically significant difference between the treatment group and the comparison group with regard to rearrest. As indicated in Table 30, 75 percent of the comparison group was rearrested compared to 56 percent of the drug court group. Although the drug court group reported fewer offenders arrested multiple times (55% versus 69% for the comparison group), the difference was not statistically significant.

Determinants of Rearrest

As with the common pleas and municipal drug court analyses, logistic regression was employed in an effort to determine which factors were significantly related to rearrest. Gender, prior arrest, and group membership were all significantly related to rearrest (see Appendix). Thus, as illustrated by Figure 3, individuals who were male, had a prior arrest, and were members of the comparison group were significantly more likely to be rearrested than their counterparts. Therefore, similar to the common pleas and municipal drug courts, it can be concluded that juvenile drug courts were impacting behavior in terms of rearrest.

Table 29. Supervision and Outcome for Juvenile Drug Court Participants

Characteristics	Drug Court	
	N	%
	(n=133)	
Were Original Charges Dismissed		
Yes	46	38.7
No	73	61.3
Was Defendant's Record Expunged		
Yes	40	34.2
No	77	65.8
Termination Status		
Graduated From Drug Court	65	48.9
Termination Unsuccessful	48	36.1
Expiration of Term	0	0.0
Absconded	0	0.0
Other	20	15.0

Table 30. Juvenile Drug Court and Comparison Group Rearrest Information

Characteristics	Drug Court N (n=310)	%	Comparison N (n= 134)	%
Rearrested for a New Offense:				
Yes	108	55.7	30	75.0
No	86	44.3	10	25.0
χ^2=5.121; p=.024				
Arrested Multiple Times				
Yes	59	55.1	22	68.7
No	48	44.9	10	31.3

Figure 3

Impact of Significant Predictors on the Probability of Rearrest
Juvenile Court N= 448
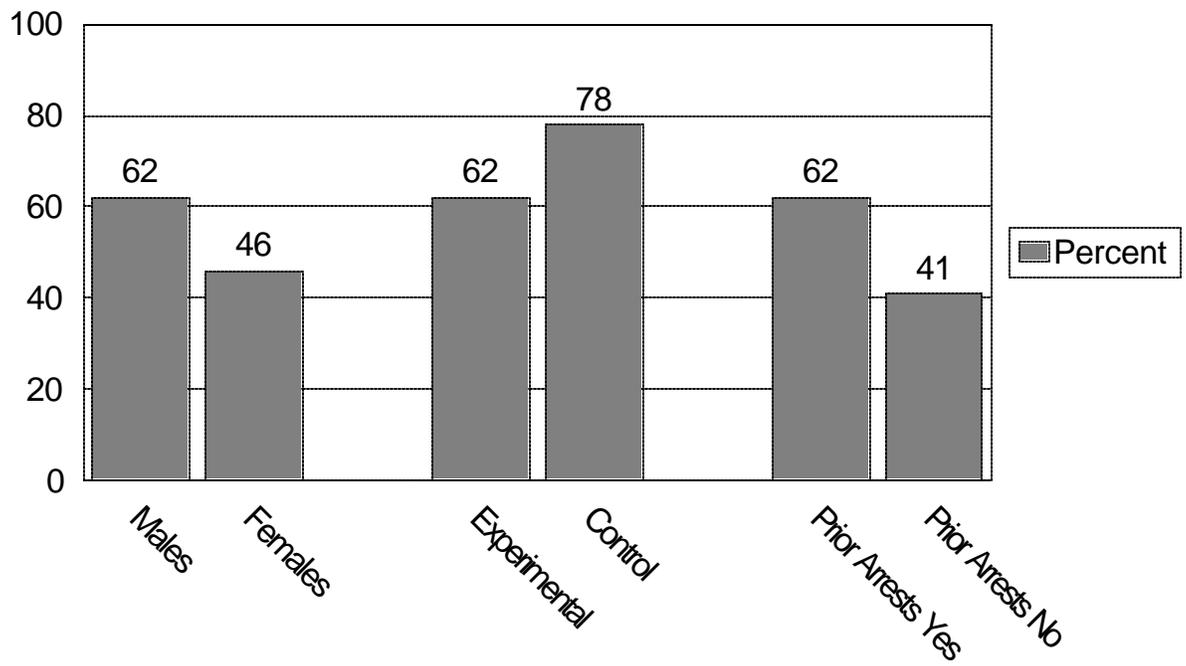
Only the probabilities for the significant factors from the logistic regression are depicted on the figure

OVERALL DRUG COURT RESULTS

The previous sections provide analyses of drug court programs by court type (Common Pleas, Municipal, and Juvenile). However, while it can be concluded that each type of drug court impacts behavior, such an analysis fails to provide an overall indicator of who is being served by Ohio's drug courts, their performance while in drug court, and their subsequent behavior. Thus, this analysis combines data from the previous three sections in an effort to provide an overall picture of Ohio's drug courts and their effectiveness.

Social demographic information was combined from the various drug courts and comparison groups in an effort to describe the groups and determine whether differences in outcome were related to individual differences within the samples. Additionally, knowing the population served by drug courts allows us to determine whether the case outcomes were influenced by any of the differences. Thus, this section profiles the treatment group and comparison group based on demographics, current offense characteristics, disposition, and criminal history. The following questions will be addressed in this section:

- *What are the characteristics of the offenders served by the drug courts in Ohio?*

- *What, if any, differences exist between the drug court and comparison groups with regard to background characteristics?*

Social Demographic Information

Table 31 indicates that participants of the drug courts and members of the comparison group were similar with regard to gender, age, and marital status and different on race, education, and employment status. Members of both groups were typically male and not married, and over half of both groups were younger than 29. However, drug court participants were more likely to be white and to have completed

Table 31. Background Characteristics of the Drug Court and Comparison Groups

Characteristics	Drug Court N (n=1,654)	%	Comparison N (n=851)	%
Race*				
White	851	51.6	381	44.9
Nonwhite	798	48.4	467	55.1
Gender				
Male	1088	75.1	563	74.6
Female	361	24.9	192	25.4
Age				
Less than 18	297	19.4	126	19.8
18-22	288	18.8	162	25.5
23-28	201	13.1	82	12.9
29-34	234	15.3	83	13.0
35-40	278	18.1	93	14.6
41 & above	235	15.3	90	14.2
Marital Status				
Married	201	19.4	111	18.7
Not Married	837	80.6	481	81.3
Highest Grade Completed*[25]				
Less than High School	664	50.4	454	71.8
High School Graduate	653	49.6	178	28.2
Employment Status*				
Employed Full-time	327	36.2	129	21.5
Employed Part-time	467	51.8	295	49.2
Unemployed	108	11.2	176	29.3

Ns may not total 1,654 or 851 due to missing data. This pertains to all tables and figures for the aggregate samples.
*Significant at .05 level or greater.

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[25] Does not include juveniles that were still in school.

high school than members of the comparison group. The comparison group was also more likely to be unemployed than the drug court group. These differences were statistically significant.

Offense and Disposition Information

The two groups were similar with regard to current charge and legal status, but different in terms of dispositions imposed. As illustrated in Table 32, the majority of both groups was charged with drug offenses, and were convicted or adjudicated. As expected, drug court participants were significantly more likely to receive drug treatment[26], intensive supervision, drug testing, and court costs and fines. In contrast, members of the comparison group were significantly more likely to be required to pay fees, have work details imposed, and have community service as part of their disposition. Finally, few offenders in both groups had their license suspended, were placed on electronic monitoring or required to pay restitution.

Criminal History

Table 33 reports the number of prior arrests for drug court and comparison group members. Three of the six factors were significant; the drug court group reported more prior felony arrests, fewer misdemeanor arrests, and more unsuccessful terminations from community supervision. There were no differences in overall prior record, prior delinquent arrests, or prior sentences to community supervision. Despite the significant factors, the two groups, overall, appeared to be similar in most of the criminal history factors.

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[26] We do not know the reason that referral to drug treatment was not made in every case, however, there are several possible explanations. For example, the offender might have absconded prior to referral, or the offender was convicted on new charges prior to a referral being made.

Table 32. Offense & Disposition Information for Drug Court & Comparison Groups

Characteristics	Drug Court N (n=1,654)	%	Comparison N (n=851)	%
Current Charge:				
Drug	747	73.4	386	76.3
Property	186	18.3	87	17.2
Person	42	4.1	20	3.9
Other	43	4.2	13	2.6
Legal Status				
Convicted/Adjudicated	714	77.9	295	72.7
Treatment In Lieu	146	15.9	82	20.2
Preconviction/Adjudication	56	6.1	29	7.1
Disposition Drug Treatment*				
Yes	1150	93.3	257	82.1
No	82	6.7	56	17.9
Disposition Intensive Supervision*				
Yes	684	59.6	128	42.0
No	464	40.4	177	58.0
Disposition Drug Testing*				
Yes	1072	97.5	314	86.7
No	28	2.5	48	13.3
Disposition Court Cost and Fines*				
Yes	743	65.4	226	63.8
No	393	34.6	128	36.2
Disposition License Suspension				
Yes	294	27.0	85	29.4
No	794	73.0	204	70.6
Disposition Fees*				
Yes	242	27.8	182	52.9
No	628	72.2	162	47.1

Table 32 con't. Offense & Disposition Information for Drug Court & Comparison Groups

Characteristics	Drug Court		Comparison	
	N	%	N	%
	(n=1,654)		(n=851)	
Disposition Work Detail*				
Yes	7	.9	24	8.5
No	805	99.1	258	91.5
Disposition Electronic Monitoring				
Yes	24	2.9	10	3.5
No	797	97.1	275	96.5
Disposition Community Service*				
Yes	44	4.2	73	22.9
No	1007	95.8	245	77.1
Disposition Restitution				
Yes	88	10.4	40	13.8
No	755	89.6	250	86.2

*Significant at .05 level or greater

Table 33. Criminal History for the Drug Court & Comparison Groups

Characteristics	Drug Court		Comparison	
	N	%	N	%
	(n=1,654)		(n=851)	
Prior Record (Adult or Juvenile)				
Yes	943	59.8	576	64.0
No	633	40.2	224	36.0
Number of Prior Felony Arrests*				
None	602	53.0	316	46.4
1	271	23.9	173	25.4
2 or more	262	23.1	192	28.2
Number of Prior Misdemeanor Arrests*				
None	329	28.2	188	27.0
1	255	21.9	200	28.7
2 or more	582	49.9	309	44.3
Number of Prior Delinquent Arrests				
None	639	75.4	328	80.0
1	84	9.9	34	8.3
2 or more	124	14.6	48	11.7
Number of Prior Sentences to Community Supervision				
None	661	68.6	290	67.8
1	190	19.7	99	23.1
2 or more	113	11.7	39	9.1
Unsuccessful Terminations from Community Supervision*				
None	831	87.2	379	92.7
1	85	8.9	21	5.1
2 or more	36	3.8	9	2.2

*Significant at .05 level or greater

Drug & Alcohol Abuse History [27]

As indicated in Table 34, 91 percent of all drug court participants received a drug assessment. The majority of participants reported marijuana as the drug of choice (50.9%) followed by alcohol (22.2%), and crack/cocaine (21.5%). About 80 percent of the drug court participants reported trying both drugs and alcohol by the age of 17. Drug use occurs more frequently than alcohol use, with 19.1 percent of the offenders reporting daily alcohol consumption, compared to 37.9 percent reporting daily drugs use. Almost 43 percent reported other family members with chemical dependency problems, and about 46 percent reported prior drug treatment. Finally, about 11 percent were dual diagnosed with chemical dependency and mental illness

Treatment Considerations

As noted in the previous sections, drug courts that are able to effectively identify and target needs other than substance abuse increase the likelihood of reducing recidivism among their clients. Furthermore, having knowledge of what happened to clients while under supervision enhances outcome evaluations. Documenting treatment needs, referrals, and retention rates allow us to determine how differences in treatment are related to case outcome. Thus, this section addresses the following question:

- ***What are treatment needs and retention rates among drug court participants?***

Treatment Needs

It is not uncommon for drug-abusing offenders to have needs aside from drug and alcohol problems. Participants were asked to provide information regarding areas such as housing, mental and physical health, family circumstances, employment, and education. Table 35 indicates that, as expected, the majority of participants reported chronic or frequent problems in the areas of drug abuse (80.7%) and alcohol abuse (50.6%).

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[27] Data is presented only for drug court participants, as it is unavailable for adults in the comparison group.

Table 34. Substance Use Severity for the Drug Court Group

Characteristics	Drug Court N (n=1,654)	%
Did Offender Receive Drug Assessment		
Yes	947	93.5
No	66	6.5
Primary Drug of Choice		
Alcohol	238	24.3
Marijuana	454	46.3
Crack/Cocaine	230	23.5
Narcotics	37	3.8
Other	21	2.1
Age of First Alcohol Use		
Under 10	75	6.4
10-13	326	27.7
14-17	558	47.7
18-22	183	15.6
23-27	15	1.3
Over 28	19	1.6
Age of First Drug Use		
Under 10	45	3.8
10-13	300	25.4
14-17	558	47.2
18-22	192	16.2
23-27	14	1.2
Over 28	73	6.2
Frequency of Alcohol Use		
Daily	221	19.2
Once a week	433	37.5
Less than once a week	500	43.3
Frequency of Drug Use		
Daily	436	37.9
Once a week	404	35.2
Less than once a week	309	26.9

Table 34 con't. Substance Use Severity for the Drug Court Group

	Drug Court	
	N	%
Characteristics	(n=1,654)	
Family Have Chemical Dependency Problem		
Yes	385	42.8
No	515	57.2
Has Offender Had Previous Drug Treatment		
Yes	447	46.1
No	522	53.9
Is Offender Dual Diagnosed with Drug/Mental		
Yes	94	10.7
No	783	89.3

Table 35. Treatment Needs for the Drug Court Group

	Drug Court	
	N	%
Characteristics	(n=1,654)	
Drug Abuse		
Chronic, Severe disruption	524	55.5
Frequent disruption	238	25.2
Situational/Occasional problems	152	16.1
No disruption of functioning	30	3.1
Alcohol Abuse		
Chronic, Severe disruption	284	31.4
Frequent disruption	174	19.2
Situational/Occasional problems	276	30.5
No disruption of functioning	171	18.9
Employment		
Chronic, Severe disruption	192	21.5
Frequent disruption	176	19.7
Situational/Occasional problems	173	19.4
No disruption of functioning	299	39.3
Family		
Chronic, Severe disruption	135	15.3
Frequent disruption	246	27.8
Situational/Occasional problems	295	33.4
No disruption of functioning	208	23.5
Housing		
Chronic, Severe disruption	116	13.7
Frequent disruption	119	14.0
Situational/Occasional problems	190	22.4
No disruption of functioning	424	49.9
Education		
Chronic, Severe disruption	132	14.8
Frequent disruption	156	17.5
Situational/Occasional problems	179	20.1
No disruption of functioning	422	47.5

Table 35 con't. Treatment Needs for the Drug Court Group

	Drug Court	
	N	%
Characteristics	(n=1,654)	
Mental Health		
Chronic, Severe disruption	40	4.7
Frequent disruption	84	9.8
Situational/Occasional problems	183	21.5
No disruption of functioning	545	64.0
Physical Health		
Chronic, Severe disruption	53	6.2
Frequent disruption	67	7.9
Situational/Occasional problems	161	18.9
No disruption of functioning	570	67.0

Furthermore, employment (43.7%) and family circumstances (43%) were identified as frequent or situational problems for a majority of drug court clients. Close to half of the participants reported no problems in the areas of housing and education, while over two-thirds of the participants indicated not having problems in the areas of mental and physical health.

Services Referred

The courts were also asked to track the treatment or service referrals made for each participant. As indicated by Table 36, 97.3 percent of the participants were referred to substance abuse treatment, 38.9 percent to employment, 34.7 percent to education, 20.8 percent to housing, 34.3 percent to family, 23.8 percent to medical services, and 13.4 percent to mental health services. While it could be argued that drug courts' primary goal should be to treat substance abuse, research indicates programs are more effective when they target additional criminogenic needs. Thus, better matching of services to the treatment needs identified in the section above would likely improve the effectiveness of drug courts.

Treatment Retention Rates

Overall, it appears that treatment providers for the various drug courts were able to retain a majority of clients in treatment. Table 37 reports the initial treatment setting and outcome. Nearly 27 percent of the drug court participants entered residential service upon entering the first treatment phase, 40.9 percent began intensive outpatient services and 27.2 percent entered outpatient treatment. Finally, less than one percent entered aftercare services as their first phase of treatment. Slightly over 70 percent of the clients successfully completed the first phase of treatment. Of those who failed to complete the first phase, 28.1 percent were non-compliant, 21.6 percent absconded, 18.9 percent were referred to another level of care, and 22.1 percent were revoked. In sum, it appears that

Table 36. Service Referrals for the Drug Court Participants

Characteristics	Drug Court N (n=1,654)	%
Referred to Substance Abuse Treatment		
Yes	748	97.3
No	21	2.7
Referred to Employment Services		
Yes	245	38.9
No	384	61.1
Referred to Educational Services		
Yes	219	34.7
No	412	65.3
Referred to Housing Assistance		
Yes	118	20.5
No	458	79.5
Referred to Family Services		
Yes	216	34.3
No	413	65.6
Referred to Medical Services		
Yes	146	23.8
No	467	76.2
Referred to Mental Health Services		
Yes	83	15.1
No	466	84.9

Table 37. Treatment Activity for the Drug Court Participants

Characteristics	Drug Court N (n=1,654)	%
First Treatment Setting		
Long Term Residential	183	26.6
Short Term Residential	32	4.7
Intensive Outpatient	281	40.9
Outpatient	187	27.2
Aftercare	4	.6
Outcome of 1st Placement		
Completed phase	418	70.5
Did not complete phase	175	29.5
Reason for Not Completing Placement		
Referred to another level of care	40	23.0
Non-compliance	61	35.1
Absconded	46	26.4
Revoked	7	4.0
Other	20	11.5

the courts are identifying appropriate targets for treatment and retaining a majority of clients.

Case Outcome & Subsequent Criminal Behavior

The goal of an outcome evaluation is to determine the impact of an intervention of subsequent behavior. This section, therefore, examines the impact of drug court participation on future criminal behavior. Hence, the purpose of this section is to address the recidivism rates between the two groups and identify factors associated with outcome. Thus, the following questions will be answered in this section:

- *Are Ohio's drug courts effective in reducing recidivism?*

- *What factors predict the likelihood of success/failure?*

Court Reported Violations

As noted previously, technical violations provide a measure of in-program behavior that may have a significant impact on behavioral change. Data were only available for drug court participants for this section. Table 38 indicates that 51 percent of the drug court participants committed at least one technical violation while under supervision. The most common type of violation falls into the category of "other" (32%), which includes missing appointments with probation officers or treatment providers. Also common were new arrests (26.2%), positive urine screens (18.9%), and non-compliance with treatment (11.1%).

A variety of sanctions were imposed by judges on those individuals who were brought to court on a violation. The most frequent sanctions include jail (28.3%), community service (13.8%), house arrest/electronic monitoring (13.4%), and other sanctions (24.6%), which may include essay writing or short-term holds in detention. Less frequently used sanctions include issuing a bench warrant (6.3%), and changes in treatment intensity (4.9%). Finally, sanctions such as fines, curfews, intensive

Table 38. Drug Court Participants' Supervision Activity

Characteristics	Drug Court N (N=774)	%
Court Reported Violation:		
Yes	393	50.8
Type of Violations Reported:		
New Arrest	746	26.2
Failure to Appear	206	7.2
Positive Urine Screen	539	19.0
Absconded	127	4.5
Non-complaint with Treatment	316	11.1
Other	910	32.0
Total	2,844	100.0
Sanctions Rendered for Violations:		
Bench Warrant	113	6.3
Jail	508	28.5
Fines	54	3.0
Curfew	29	1.6
Community Service	240	13.5
House Arrest/Electronic Monitoring	240	13.5
Intensive Supervision	36	2.0
Increased Drug Testing	19	1.1
Change in Treatment Intensity	89	4.9
Increased Court Contact	16	.9
Other	440	24.7
Total	1,784	100.0

supervision, and increased drug testing and court contact were also used, though less frequently.

Termination Information

The termination status of drug court participants is reported in Table 39. Just over 50 percent of those who participated in the program had their original charge dismissed while nearly 16 percent had their record expunged. Overall, 41.1 percent of drug court participants graduated while 34.7 percent were terminated unsuccessfully. Slightly over 17 percent of those who failed to complete the program absconded and 6.7 percent were unsuccessful for other reasons such as expiration of sentence or moving out of a court's jurisdiction.

Rearrest Rates

Table 40 indicates there is a significant difference in rearrest rates between drug court participants and members of the comparison group. Specifically, 38 percent of the drug court group was rearrested compared to 47.7 percent of the comparison group. Moreover, comparison group members were more likely to be rearrested multiple times with 48.8 percent arrested more than once compared with 39.8 percent of the drug court group. These differences were statistically significant.

It is also instructive to examine the arrest rates between individuals who successfully completed the program and those who did not. Table 41 reports the rearrest rates for drug court graduates and drug court participants who failed to complete the program for a variety of reasons. As indicated, 32.2 percent of the drug court graduates were rearrested compared with 55.5 percent of drug court participants who failed to complete the drug court program. Thus, drug courts were reducing recidivism and appeared to be having their greatest effect on those individuals who successfully complete the program.

Table 39. Supervision and Outcome for the Drug Court Participants

Characteristics	Drug Court N	%
	(n=654)	
Were Original Charges Dismissed		
Yes	266	50.7
No	259	49.3
Was Defendant's Record Expunged		
Yes	82	16.0
No	432	84.0
Termination Status		
Graduated from Drug Court	286	41.0
Terminated Unsuccessful	242	34.7
Expiration of Term	48	6.9
Absconded	67	18.7
Other	11	3.1

Table 40. Drug Court and Comparison Group Rearrest Information

Characteristics	Drug Court N (N = 1,654)	%	Comparison N (N = 851)	%
Rearrested for a New Offense*				
Yes	565	38.0	353	47.7
No	920	62.0	387	52.3
Arrested Multiple Times*				
Yes	195	39.9	139	48.8
No	294	60.1	146	51.2

*Significant at .05 level or greater

Table 41. Drug Court and Comparison Group Rearrest Information

Characteristics	Graduates N (N = 274)	%	Non-Completers N (N = 377)	%
Rearrested				
Yes	88	32.2	209	55.5
No	186	67.8	168	44.5

Determinants of Rearrest

It is important to determine what factors were associated with rearrest to be certain that drug courts themselves were having an impact on recidivism. Logistic regression was used to identify factors associated with recidivism and to control for differences between the two groups. Gender, race, education, employment, court type[28] marital status, prior record, time to arrest, and group membership were used to predict arrest. As indicated by Figure 4, all of the factors were significant with the exception of marital status and court type. Specifically, individuals who were non-white, male, had not completed high school, did not have a prior record[29], were unemployed, and were members of the comparison group were more likely to be rearrested than their counterparts. As expected, time to arrest was also significant, indicating that the longer individuals were followed, the more likely they were to recidivate. While this analysis does not allow us to determine which components of Ohio's drug courts were affecting recidivism rates, it can be concluded that drug courts in Ohio were reducing recidivism, and that when other factors were controlled, participation in a drug court program reduced the probability of rearrest by 15 percent.

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[28] Court type was coded as adult or juvenile with both common pleas and municipal courts identified as adult courts.

[29] Although this finding appears to be counterintuitive, it appears that the comparison group is driving the results. There was a 5 percent difference in rearrest rates between those with a record and those with no record for the drug court group (those with a prior record failing at a higher rate) and a 20 percent difference for the comparison group (with those with no record failing at a higher rate).

Figure 4

Impact of Significant Predictors on Probability of Rearrest for Combined Drug Courts & Comparison Groups
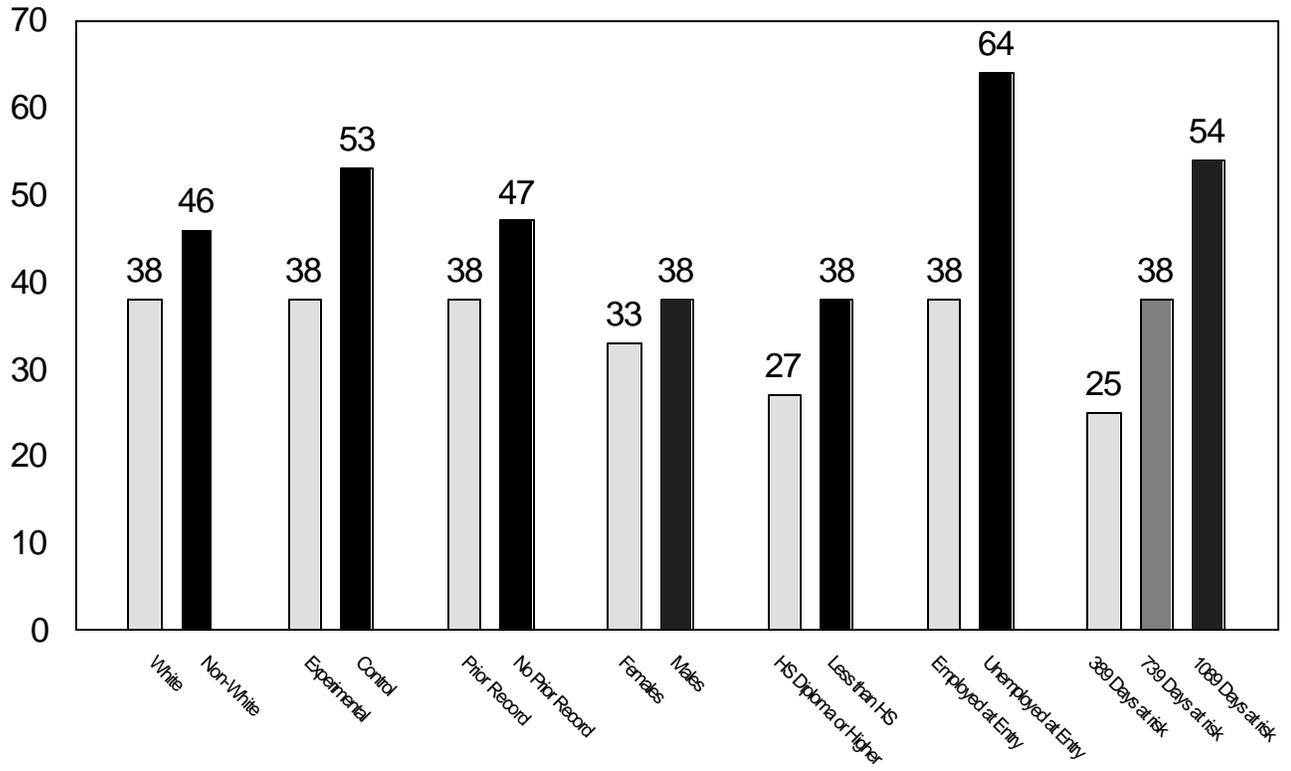
Includes Adult Common Pleas, Adult Municipal, and Juvenile. N=2,509

SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The findings of this evaluation can be summarized as follows:

What are the characteristics of the offenders served by the drug courts in Ohio? What, if any, differences exist between the drug court and comparison groups with regard to background characteristics?

- The Common Pleas drug court and comparison groups were very similar with regard to social demographic characteristics. The typical person in each group was non-white, male, approximately 31 years of age, working part-time, and not married. Drug court participants however, were significantly more likely to have graduated from high school than members of the comparison group.

- Members of the Municipal drug court and comparison groups differed only in terms of education and employment. The typical participant in each group was male, non-white, with an average age around 30, and not married. However, drug court participants were more likely to have graduated from high school, and were more likely to be employed full-time.

- The Juvenile Drug Court and comparison groups differed significantly in terms of race, age, education, and employment status. The majority of both groups were male. However, members of the drug court were more likely to be white, have completed more years of education, and were more likely to be employed.

- Overall, drug court participants and members of the comparison group look very similar with significant differences only in terms of race, education, and employment. The typical offender was male, under the age of 28, employed, and not married. Drug court participants were significantly more likely to be white and high school graduates than offenders in the comparison group.

- The majority of offenders in the Common Pleas drug court, Municipal drug court and respective comparison groups were charged with drug offenses and had been convicted. In contrast, members of the Juvenile drug court and comparison group were typically charged with property offenses, and although the majority of both groups were adjudicated, members of the Juvenile Court group were significantly more likely to have received treatment in lieu than the comparison group.

- Overall, the majority of drug court participants and comparison group members were charged with drug offenses and were convicted/adjudicated.

- Common Pleas drug court participants were more likely to have a prior record than members of the comparison group. However, the two groups did not differ in terms of severity of prior record; members of both groups were likely to have two or more prior felony arrests and two or more prior misdemeanor arrests.

- Municipal drug court and comparison group members generally had a prior record and had two or more misdemeanor arrests.

- Although the majority of both the Juvenile drug court and comparison group had a prior record, they differed in terms of type of record. The Juvenile drug court group had more serious and frequent prior arrests. These differences were statistically significant.

- Overall, the majority of drug court participants and comparison group members had a prior record, and while there were differences between the groups the differences were not substantial.

- The majority of participants in all three Drug Court groups identified marijuana as their drug of choice, followed by alcohol.

- The typical Common Pleas and Municipal drug court participant started using alcohol at age 16 and drugs at age 18. Juvenile drug court participants and comparison group members began using drugs and alcohol at age 13.

What are treatment needs and retention rates among drug court participants?

- Drug court participants exhibited a number of treatment needs. When ranked in order of importance, Common Pleas drug court participants ranked drug abuse, alcohol abuse, employment, and family as the most important. Municipal drug court participants most commonly identified drug abuse and employment as the most serious needs. The majority of Juvenile drug court clients reported drug abuse as being their only chronic or frequent need. When combined, drug court participants reported drug abuse, alcohol abuse, employment, and family circumstances as most problematic.

- The vast majority (78%) of the Common Pleas and Juvenile drug court clients successfully completed the first phase of treatment, while 64 percent of Municipal drug court clients successfully completed the first phase. Overall, 70 percent of drug court participants in Ohio successfully completed the first phase of treatment.

Are drug courts effective in reducing recidivism? What factors predict the likelihood of success/failure?

- Technical violations were common for drug court participants: 49 percent Common Pleas, 33 percent Municipal, and 65 percent Juvenile. When combined, 51 percent for the drug court participants were brought to court on technical violations. The most common violations included positive urine screens, non-compliance with treatment, other, and new arrests.

- The Common Pleas drug courts graduated 31 percent of their participants, the Municipal drug courts graduated 44 percent of their participants, and the Juvenile drug courts graduated 34 percent of their participants. When all groups were examined, 41 percent of all drug court participants graduated.

- Approximately 32 percent of the Common Pleas drug court participants were rearrested versus 44 percent of the comparison group. This difference was

statistically significant. Factors predicting rearrest include prior record, education, employment status, and whether the offender was part of the drug court group. Offenders with a prior record, less than a high school education, unemployed and not in the drug court group were significantly more likely to be rearrested. After controlling for differences between the groups, the probability of rearrest for the Common Pleas drug court group was 26 percent compared to 45 percent for the comparison group.

- Municipal drug court participants were significantly less likely to be rearrested than comparison group members for a new offense and significantly less likely to be rearrested multiple times. Specifically, 41 percent of the Municipal drug court clients were rearrested compared to 49 percent of the comparison group. Slightly over 26 percent of the Municipal drug court group reported multiple arrests versus 39 percent of the comparison group. Factors predicting rearrest were race, education, employment, time at risk, and whether the individual was part of the drug court group. Offenders who were non-white, had less than a high school education, unemployed, at risk the longest, and were not in the drug court group were significantly more likely to be rearrested. After controlling for differences between the groups, the probability of rearrest for the Municipal drug court group was 43 percent versus 52 percent for the comparison group.

- Nearly 56 percent of the Juvenile drug court participants were rearrested compared with 75 percent of comparison group. This difference was statistically significant. Predictors of rearrest were gender, prior record, and whether the juvenile was a participant in a drug court. Males, offenders with prior arrests, and those who were not in the drug court program were significantly more likely to be rearrested. After controlling for differences between the groups, the probability of rearrest for the Juvenile drug court group was 62 percent versus 78 percent for the comparison group.

- When the data from the ten Ohio drug courts were combined 38 percent drug court participants reported a new arrest versus nearly 48 percent of the comparison group. Moreover, members of the comparison group were significantly more likely to be arrested multiple times; 48.8 percent compared to about 39.8 percent of the drug court offenders. A number of factors were significant in predicting rearrest. Offenders who were non-white, had a prior record, did not have a high school diploma, were unemployed at the time of admission, were at risk longer, were in juvenile drug court, and did not participate in a drug court were more likely to be rearrested. When differences were controlled, 38 percent of those offenders who participated in a drug court program were rearrested compared to 53 percent of the comparison group.

- Finally, when all offenders were examined, successfully completing a drug court program was a significant predictor of a new arrest. The probability of rearrest for those offenders who completed a drug court program was 32 percent versus 55.5 percent for the comparison group.

Overall, the evaluation results are very promising. The outcome findings indicate that offenders who participate in drug courts, regardless of type of drug court, were less likely to be rearrested than a comparison group of offenders who did not receive drug court services. As noted earlier, the basic social demographic characteristics were similar between the two groups. However, there is one main difference between the groups: the drug court participants generally chose to participate in drug treatment while the comparison group did not. Due to this and other limitations of the study, caution should be used when interpreting the results. Increasing the size of the comparison group samples, extending the follow-up period, and more complete data on the comparison group cases are all necessary to learn more about the effectiveness of drug courts in the State of Ohio.

Given the popularity of the drug court model across the country and in Ohio, their ability to reduce drug abuse and recidivism remains a key issue. The drug court model clearly embraces the notion that "get tough" policies towards drug abuse have fallen short. By endorsing the view that treatment, when combined with strict judicial monitoring, can be an effective tool in reducing recidivism, drug courts hold more promise than traditional policies that rely on incarceration and stricter sentences.

There are several conclusions that can be drawn from this study. First, drug courts across Ohio appear to be targeting appropriate offenders. While there are undoubtedly other offenders who could benefit from drug court services, the screening processes that are in place appear to identify appropriate offenders.

Second, as with many offender groups, the drug court participants have a host of risk and need factors that should be identified and addressed through appropriate treatment and intervention. Employment, education, substance abuse, and family

problems were the more common areas identified, and the ones in which services were most likely provided.

Third, as with other studies of treatment effectiveness, it appears that when offenders complete a drug court program they were considerably more likely to remain crime free than when they did not. Although the rate of drug court completion was less than ideal, there are several possible reasons for this finding. First, many of the offenders in our sample were still active in drug court programs, and therefore have not yet had an opportunity to finish. Second, given the strict reporting requirements of many drug courts it is not surprising that many offenders cannot successfully complete all that is asked of them. Undoubtedly, some offenders would rather face other alternatives that adhere to the drug court. Furthermore, it is also important to remember that there is no "magic bullet" with regard to substance abuse treatment. That is, there is no one model that works for all substance abusers. Our previous descriptions of the drug court treatment offered throughout Ohio indicated that the vast majority of treatment providers relied on one primary approach (12-Step model). There is some research to indicate that many offenders fail to connect to this model. Given the absence of alternative approaches it is not surprising that completion rates are low. Lastly, it is important to remember that substance abuse is a relapsing condition. Even though drug courts are designed to expect and deal with relapsing behavior, there is a limit to a court's patience.

Finally, it can be concluded that the drug courts in Ohio are having a significant and appreciable effect on recidivism. As illustrated in Figure 5, the difference in rearrest rates were greater for the Common Pleas group, a 19 percentage point difference, and the Juvenile drug court group with a 16 percentage point difference, followed by the Municipal courts with a 9 percent difference. When the Common Pleas, Municipal, and

Figure 5

Reductions in Rearrest Rates between Drug Courts & Comparison Groups Across all Drug Court Groups

	Common Pleas	Municipal	Juvenile	Combined Total
& point reduction	19	9	16	15
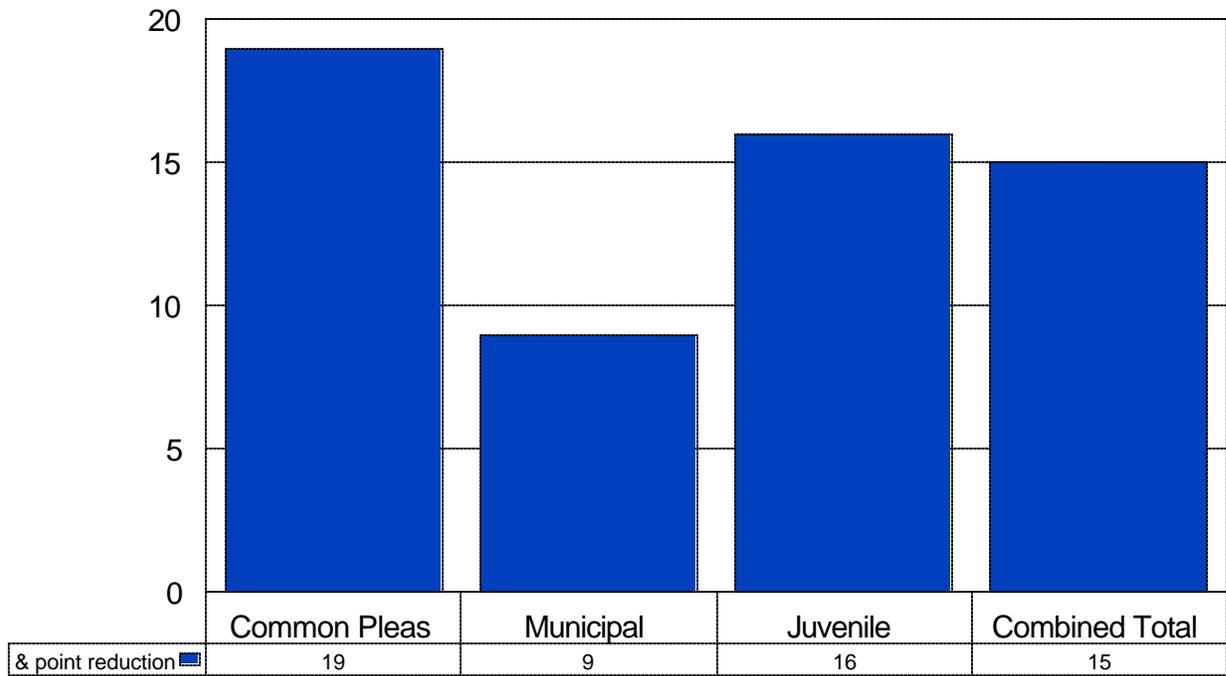
Combined total includes the Common Pleas, Municipal, and Juvenile drug courts.

Juvenile drug courts were combined there was a 15 percentage point difference. This finding is consistent with other studies of drug courts (Aos, Phipps, Barnoski, Lieb, 1999).

The difference in rearrest rates among the various types of drug courts was not surprising, and there are several possible explanations for these findings. First, some of the drug courts in Ohio were more established than others. For example, the oldest drug court in Ohio, Hamilton County, began its drug court efforts in 1995. Most previous research on correctional treatment programs indicates that more established programs produce greater reductions in recidivism than newer programs. Second, Common Pleas courts have greater leverage than Municipal courts, given the more serious nature of the offense and subsequent punishment than be meted out. Third, in previous studies of individual drug courts in Ohio, this study found considerable differences in recidivism rates. While some of these differences can be explained by variation in offender characteristics (e.g. risk and need levels), the multivariate analysis conducted for this study helped control for these differences. What remains, as a possible explanation is differences in the quality of the drug courts. That is, there are undoubtedly some drug courts that are better managed than others, have more qualified, experienced, and better trained staff than others, and whose treatment providers deliver more effective interventions. Unfortunately, this study did not allow us to examine program integrity, and therefore we can only speculate on the effect this factor had on outcome.

Based on these findings, and in order to further increase the effectiveness of Ohio's drug courts, the following recommendations can be offered:

1. In addition to varying degrees of substance abuse problems, offenders will have varying degrees of other risk factors (e.g., antisocial values, antisocial peer associations, and so forth). In order to improve the assessment of offenders, drug courts need to adopt standardized and objective risk/need assessment tools that measure a wide variety of factors. These tools will assist drug courts in better

assessing and treating offenders, and will facilitate the comparison of offenders across jurisdictions.

2. Drug courts need to develop quality assurance mechanisms that ensure the treatment and services offered are of high quality and of sufficient intensity and duration to be effective. This will include better tracking of offender progress in reducing target problems, improved monitoring of treatment providers, and internal processes to determine that treatment and services are delivered as designed.

3. Aftercare services can significantly increase treatment effectiveness. Data on the provision of aftercare services was extremely limited, and therefore we could not determine the level, quality, or duration of these services, or if they were even required/delivered. Requiring and providing high quality aftercare services should be an integral part of all drug courts in Ohio.

4. Further research needs to be conducted that examines the "program integrity" of the drug courts operating in the state. That is, we are seeing some variation in the rearrest rates across drug courts than cannot be explained by the available data. In order to learn more about the quality of the treatment services, we recommend that drug court treatment providers be assessed and evaluated with regard to program quality.

5. Finally, in order to conduct a more comprehensive evaluation of the drug courts across Ohio, more detailed information should be collected. This would include risk assessment results, supervision activities, substance use and severity, drug testing results, and services received. These data would allow for a more detailed comparison between the groups and would allow the research to further explore the factors related to success or failure.

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APPENDIX

Common Pleas Drug Courts
Logistical Regression Predicting Arrest:
Treatment versus Control

Variable	B	S.E.	Wald	df	Significance
Gender	.256	.168	2.322	1	.128
Race	.227	.144	2.483	1	.115
Education	-.472	.188	6.290	1	.012
Employment	.544	.238	5.231	1	.022
Group	.829	.158	27.484	1	.000**
Prior Record	-1.094	.167	42.974	1	. 000**
Time to arrest	.055	.132	.172	1	.679

*p < .01
**p < .001

Municipal Drug Courts
Logistical Regression Predicting Arrest:
Treatment versus Control

Variable	B	S.E.	Wald	df	Significance
Gender	-.149	.220	.457	1	.499
Race	.363	.196	3.449	1	.063
Education	-.652	.191	11.620	1	.000**
Employment	.300	.107	7.934	1	.005*
Group	.385	.226	2.907	1	.088
Prior Record	-.004	.207	.000	1	.056
Time to arrest	.000	.000	3.667	1	.000**

*$p < .05$
**$p < .001$

Juvenile Drug Courts
Logistical Regression Predicting Arrest:
Treatment versus Control

Variable	B	S.E.	Wald	df	Significance
Gender	-.656	.337	3.795	1	.051*
Race	.233	.305	.583	1	.445
Education	-.007	.059	.017	1	.897
Employment	-.140	.166	.708	1	.400
Group	.846	.412	4.222	1	.040*
Prior Record	.861	.325	7.0216	1	.008**
Time to arrest	-.000	.000	.215	1	.643

*p < .05
**p < .01