

Overview of the DCTAT Data for Juvenile Drug Court Program Grantees: January–June 2016

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

Report Highlights

This performance report is an overview of the Data Collection and Technical Assistance Tool (DCTAT) data for Juvenile Drug Court Program grantees as reported through June 30, 2016. The report is divided into two sections. Section 1 introduces program information for Juvenile Drug Court Program grantees, and Section 2 gives an analysis of core Juvenile Drug Court Program measures.

The highlights below all refer to the January–June 2016 reporting period.

- There were 20 active Juvenile Drug Court Program grantees, with a 100 percent reporting compliance rate.
- Juvenile justice agencies (35 percent) run the majority of the juvenile drug court programs, followed by units of local government and other government agencies.
- In the short-term outcome for targeted behaviors, of the youth in school attendance, 93 percent reached the targeted behavior; and of the youth in social competence, 69 percent demonstrated positive improvement in social skills.
- Substance use target behavior has the most youth participants (633) and of those, 220 youth showed a reduction in substance use.
- One hundred sixty-two out of 298 (54 percent) youth successfully exited juvenile drug court programs.
- Three hundred forty-four youth were enrolled in substance use services, 106 were enrolled in mental health services, and 119 were enrolled in other types of services.
- Twenty active grantees implemented 96 programs, and 86 percent of those programs were evidence based.
- In the short term, out of 833 program youth, 5 percent were committed to a juvenile residential facility as a result of a new adjudication.
- According to long-term recidivism data, 380 youth had exited the program 6 to 12 months ago and were tracked for new adjudications. Of those, 8 (2 percent) were recommitted to a juvenile residential facility.

1. Examination of Program Information

Across all reporting periods (January 2012–June 2016), grantees have input 114 sets of program data, for a reporting compliance rate of 99 percent. During the January–June 2016 reporting period, 20 grants were active. Data were completed for all active grants (Table 1).

Table 1. Status of Federal Awards Reporting by Period: January 2012–June 2016

| Data Reporting Period | Status | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------|-------------|------------|------------|
| | Not Started | In Progress | Complete | Total |
| January–June 2012 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 6 |
| July–December 2012 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 9 |
| January–June 2013 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 9 |
| July–December 2013 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 9 |
| January–June 2014 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 9 |
| July–December 2014 | 1 | 0 | 16 | 17 |
| January–June 2015 | 0 | 0 | 13 | 13 |
| July–December 2015 | 0 | 0 | 23 | 23 |
| January–June 2016 | 0 | 0 | 20 | 20 |
| Total | 1 | 0 | 114 | 115 |

Table 2 presents aggregate demographic data for January 2015–June 2016. The number represents the population that grantees are expected to serve per federal grant.¹ Targeted services include any services or approaches specifically designed to meet the needs of the population (e.g., gender-specific, culturally based, developmentally appropriate services).

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

Table 2. Grantees Serving Target Population: January 2015–June 2016

| Population | Number of Grantees Serving Group During Reporting Period | | |
|--|--|--------------------|-------------------|
| | January–June 2015 | July–December 2015 | January–June 2016 |
| Race/Ethnicity | | | |
| American Indian/Alaska Native | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Asian | 2 | 4 | 4 |
| Black/African American | 12 | 15 | 15 |
| Caucasian/Non-Latino | 6 | 7 | 7 |
| Hispanic or Latino (of Any Race) | 10 | 12 | 12 |
| Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| Other Race | 5 | 7 | 6 |
| White/Caucasian | 10 | 13 | 13 |
| Youth Population Not Served Directly | 0 | 4 | 4 |
| Justice System Status | | | |
| At-Risk Population (No Prior Offense) | 6 | 9 | 9 |
| First-Time Offenders | 11 | 13 | 12 |
| Repeat Offenders | 11 | 14 | 14 |
| Sex Offenders | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Status Offenders | 4 | 7 | 7 |
| Violent Offenders | 2 | 3 | 3 |
| Youth Population Not Served Directly | 0 | 4 | 4 |
| Gender | | | |
| Male | 13 | 16 | 16 |
| Female | 13 | 16 | 15 |
| Youth Population Not Served Directly | 0 | 2 | 3 |

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

| Age | | | |
|--------------------------------------|----|----|----|
| 0–10 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 11–18 | 13 | 16 | 16 |
| Over 18 | 2 | 4 | 4 |
| Youth Population Not Served Directly | 0 | 4 | 4 |
| Geographic Area | | | |
| Rural | 6 | 9 | 8 |
| Suburban | 9 | 11 | 13 |
| Tribal | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Urban | 8 | 10 | 11 |
| Youth Population Not Served Directly | 0 | 4 | 4 |
| Other | | | |
| Mental Health | 12 | 14 | 13 |
| Substance Use | 13 | 17 | 17 |
| Truant/Dropout | 4 | 6 | 8 |

1.1 Evidence-Based Programming and Funding Information

OJJDP encourages grantees to use evidence-based practices in their drug treatment programs. Evidence-based programs and practices include program models that have been shown, through rigorous evaluation and replication, to be effective at preventing or reducing juvenile delinquency or related risk factors. To understand how Juvenile Drug Court grantees are prioritizing evidence-based programs, grantees are asked to report whether or not their programs are evidence based. Overall, the majority of Juvenile Drug Court grantees reported using federal funds to implement an evidence-based program or practice (Table 3).²

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

| Reporting Period | N | Funding Amount | Federal Award Used to Implement an Evidence-Based Program or Practice? |
|--------------------|----|----------------|--|
| January–June 2012 | 6 | \$ 2,548,796 | Yes |
| July–December 2012 | 9 | \$ 6,425,900 | Yes |
| January–June 2013 | 9 | \$ 6,425,900 | Yes |
| July–December 2013 | 9 | \$ 6,425,900 | Yes |
| January–June 2014 | 9 | \$ 6,425,900 | Yes |
| July–December 2014 | 17 | \$10,040,695 | 15 Yes; 2 No |
| January–June 2015 | 13 | \$ 8,067,696 | 12 Yes; 1 No |
| July–December 2015 | 23 | \$12,316,878 | 21 Yes; 2 No |
| January–June 2016 | 20 | \$10,974,589 | 18 Yes; 2 No |

Table 4 further examines the number of programs or initiatives employing evidence-based practices by all active Juvenile Drug Court grantees during each reporting period. During the January–June 2016 reporting period, there were 20 active grantees implementing 96 programs, and 86 percent of the programs used some form of evidence-based program or practice.

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

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

Table 4. Percentage of Evidence-Based Programs or Practices: January 2012–June 2016

| Reporting Period | Total Number of Programs or Initiatives | Number of Programs/Initiatives Employing Evidence-Based Programs or Practices | Percent Employing Evidence-Based Programs |
|--------------------|---|---|---|
| January–June 2012 | 21 | 20 | 95 |
| July–December 2012 | 34 | 33 | 97 |
| January–June 2013 | 26 | 26 | 100 |
| July–December 2013 | 22 | 22 | 100 |
| January–June 2014 | 22 | 22 | 100 |
| July–December 2014 | 64 | 62 | 97 |
| January–June 2015 | 53 | 44 | 83 |
| July–December 2015 | 84 | 74 | 88 |
| January–June 2016 | 96 | 83 | 86 |

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

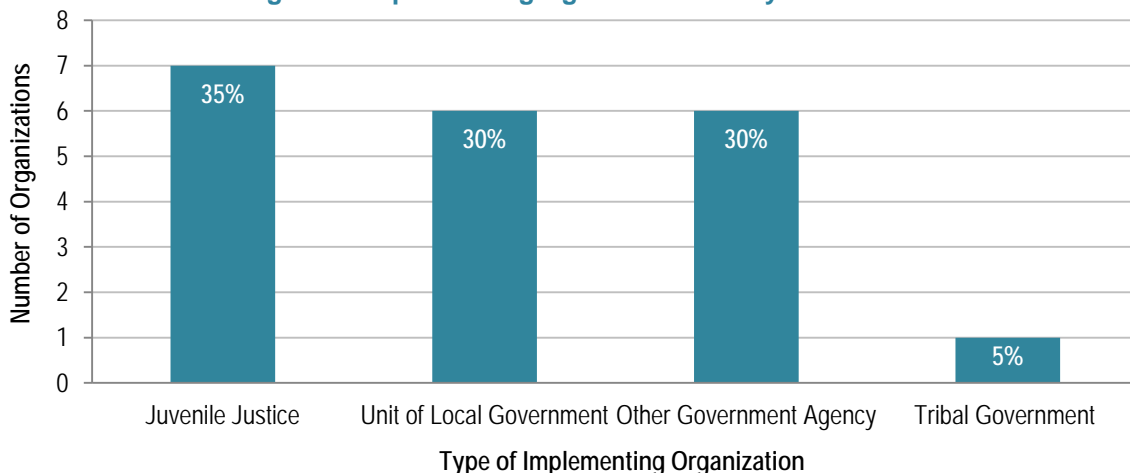
Table 5. Total Grant Amount by State (Dollars): January–June 2016

| Grantee State | N | Grant Amount (Dollars) | Grantee State | N | Grant Amount (Dollars) |
|---------------|---|------------------------|---------------|---|------------------------|
| AR | 1 | 400,000 | NY | 1 | 400,000 |
| CO | 1 | 524,569 | OH | 2 | 1,851,443 |
| FL | 2 | 1,724,098 | OK | 1 | 400,000 |
| GA | 1 | 400,000 | OR | 1 | 522,365 |
| LA | 1 | 249,182 | TX | 1 | 222,040 |
| MA | 1 | 400,000 | VA | 2 | 800,000 |
| MI | 1 | 526,443 | WA | 1 | 526,443 |
| NC | 1 | 1,228,006 | WV | 1 | 400,000 |
| NE | 1 | 400,000 | | | |

1.2 Implementing Organization Type

Analysis of implementing agencies revealed that juvenile justice agencies ran the majority of drug courts (35 percent) and units of local government and other government agencies each accounted for 30 percent of the awards (Figure 1).

Figure 1. Implementing Agencies: January–June 2016



2. Analysis of Core Measures

During the January–June 2016 reporting period, Juvenile Drug Court Program grantees served 970 youth participants; 308 (32 percent) were new admissions (Table 6). Please note that sometimes a program cannot be completed in the 6 months represented by the reporting period. Therefore, youth are carried over to the next reporting period.

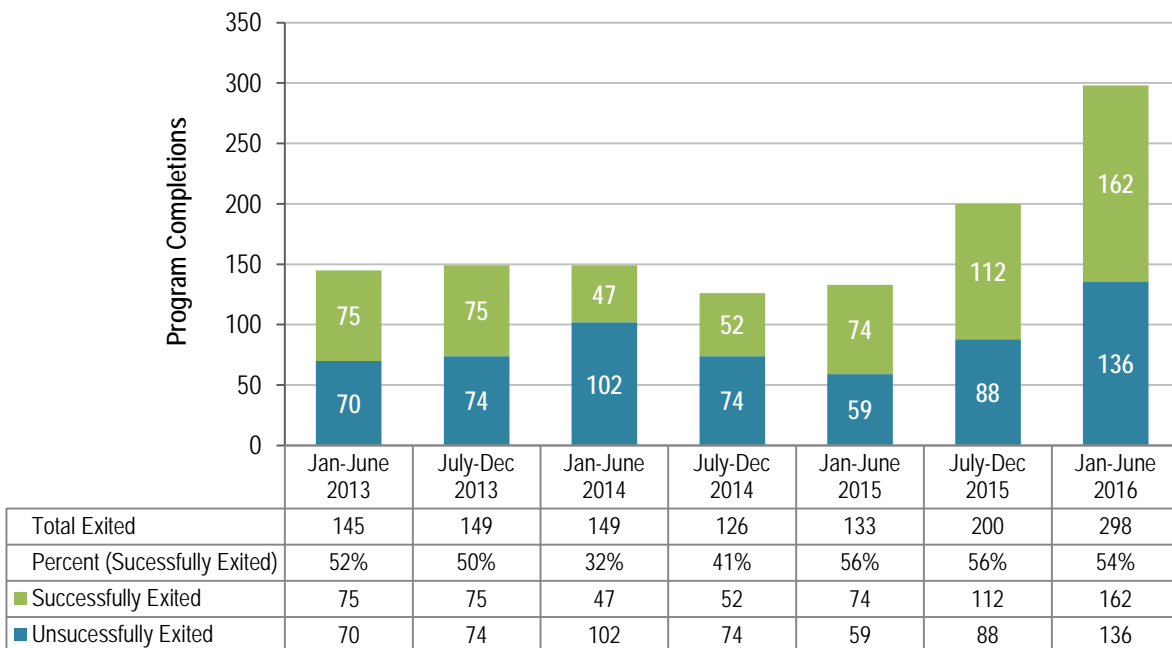
Table 6. Number of Program Youth Served During the Reporting Period: January 2012–June 2016

| Reporting Period | Number of Program Youth Carried Over from the Previous Reporting Period | New Admissions during the Reporting Period | Total |
|---------------------|---|--|------------|
| January–June 2012 | 182 | 131 | 313 |
| July–December 2012 | 229 | 104 | 333 |
| January–June 2013 | 266 | 181 | 447 |
| July– December 2013 | 271 | 122 | 393 |
| January–June 2014 | 154 | 99 | 253 |
| July– December 2014 | 296 | 138 | 434 |
| January–June 2015 | 150 | 219 | 369 |
| July– December 2015 | 538 | 230 | 768 |
| January–June 2016 | 662 | 308 | 970 |

In addition, 298 youth exited the program (Figure 2). Of those enrolled youth who exited the program, 162 (54 percent) successfully exited the court having completed all requirements. Each grantee defines the requirements needed for a youth to complete its program. “Successfully exited” youth are considered to be those who have successfully fulfilled all program obligations and requirements. Youth who fail to follow through with the program (are expelled or voluntarily depart) are considered to have “unsuccessfully exited” the program.

Overall program completion rates for youth have remained relatively consistent across the reporting periods, with January–June 2015 and July–December 2015 having the highest successfully exited rates; both had 56 percent.

Figure 2. Number of Program Youth Who Exited the Program During the Reporting Period: January 2013–June 2016



Data were also collected on the number of youth who demonstrated a positive change in a targeted behavior during the reporting period. Tables 7 and 8 show a list of measures for which grantees were required to evaluate program youth performance and track data for certain target behaviors. The tables present both short-term (Table 7) and long-term (Table 8) percentages for the specified target behaviors.

Overall, 47 percent of the program youth demonstrated an intended change in target behaviors. Table 7 shows the breakdown of the target behaviors that program youth received services for during the reporting period. Of the youth in school attendance, 93 percent reached the targeted behavior; of the youth in social competence, 69 percent demonstrated positive improvement in social skills. Even though substance use target behavior has a low outcome rate, it is the most focused treatment for drug court programs. During the reporting period, 633 program youth received substance abuse treatment, and of those, 220 youth showed a reduction in substance use.

Table 7. Target Behaviors (Short-Term Data): January–June 2016

| Target Behavior | Youth Served | Youth with Intended Behavior Change | Percent of Youth with Intended Behavior Change |
|----------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Social Competence | 45 | 31 | 69 |
| School Attendance | 43 | 40 | 93 |
| Family Relationships | 95 | 71 | 75 |
| Antisocial Behavior | 67 | 54 | 81 |
| Substance Use ⁴ | 633 | 220 | 35 |
| Total | 883 | 416 | 47 |

Table 8 presents data on long-term target behaviors. Long-term outcomes are measured 6 to 12 months after a youth leaves or completes a program. Overall, 32 percent of program youth exhibited an intended behavior change 6 to 12 months after program completion.

Table 8. Target Behaviors (Long-Term Data): January–June 2016

| Target Behavior | Youth Served | Youth with Intended Behavior Change | Percent of Youth with Intended Behavior Change |
|------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Social Competence | 7 | 4 | 57 |
| School Attendance | 5 | 2 | 40 |
| High School Completion | 1 | 1 | 100 |
| Family Relationships | 36 | 19 | 53 |
| Antisocial Behavior | 28 | 16 | 57 |
| Substance Use | 285 | 73 | 26 |
| Total | 362 | 115 | 32 |

Technical violations and actual new adjudications are measured separately to allow for a better understanding of the population served by the grant. Short-term technical violations are expected to be significant in drug court programs, because participants are treated for addictions. As shown in the top part of Table 9, 843 youth were tracked for technical violations in the short term. Of those, 99 were committed to a juvenile residential facility, and 96 received some other sentence. No youth were sentenced to adult prison. The bottom part of Table 9 shows long-term measurement of technical violations for 306 youth who exited the program 6 to 12 months ago. Of those, 24 had a technical violation (8 percent).

Table 9. Technical Violation Measures: January–June 2016

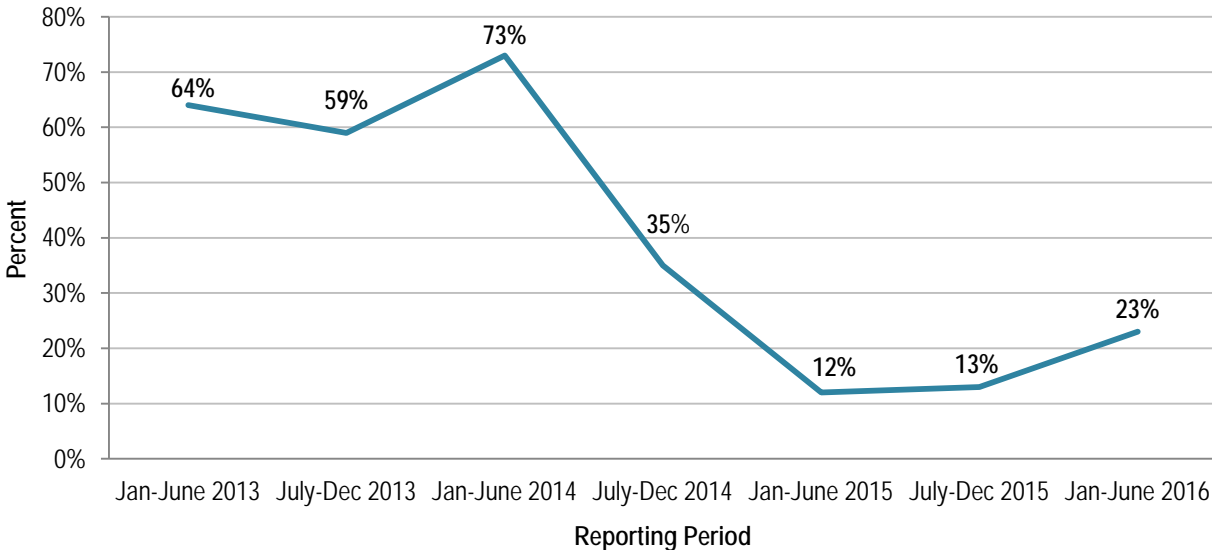
| Performance Measure | Youth | Percent |
|---|------------|-----------|
| Youth committed to a juvenile residential facility | 99 | 12 |
| Youth sentenced to adult prison | 0 | 0 |
| Youth who received some other sentence | 96 | 11 |
| Youth tracked for technical violations (short-term outcome) | 843 | |
| Total technical violations | 195 | 23 |

⁴ One grantee reported serving 253 youth, but only 11 exhibited the behavior change.

| | | |
|--|-----------|----------|
| Youth committed to a juvenile residential facility | 14 | 5 |
| Youth sentenced to adult prison | 3 | 1 |
| Youth received some other sentence | 7 | 2 |
| Youth tracked for technical violations (long-term outcome) | 306 | |
| Total technical violations | 24 | 8 |

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

Figure 3. Technical Violations (Short Term): January 2013–June 2016



As shown in the top part of Table 10, of the 833 program youth who were tracked for adjudications in the short term, 41 were committed to a juvenile residential facility as a result of a new adjudication. In addition, 3 were sentenced to adult prison, and 39 were given some other sentence. The bottom part of Table 10 shows long-term recidivism data; 380 youth had exited the program 6 to 12 months ago and were tracked for new adjudications. Of those, eight (2 percent) were recommitted to a juvenile residential facility, one (less than one percent) was sentenced to adult prison, and seven (2 percent) were given some other sentence.

Table 10. Recidivism Measures for Program Youth Tracked: January–June 2016

| Performance Measure | Youth | Percent |
|---|-----------|-----------|
| Youth committed to a juvenile residential facility | 41 | 5 |
| Youth sentenced to adult prison | 3 | <1% |
| Youth given some other sentence | 39 | 5 |
| Youth tracked for adjudications (short-term outcome) | 833 | |
| Total new adjudications | 83 | 10 |
| Youth recommitted to a juvenile residential facility | 8 | 2 |
| Youth sentenced to adult prison | 1 | <1% |
| Youth given some other sentence | 7 | 2 |
| Youth tracked for new adjudications (long-term outcome) | 380 | |
| Total new adjudications | 16 | 4 |

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

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

Figure 4. Recidivism Measures (Percent): January 2013–June 2016

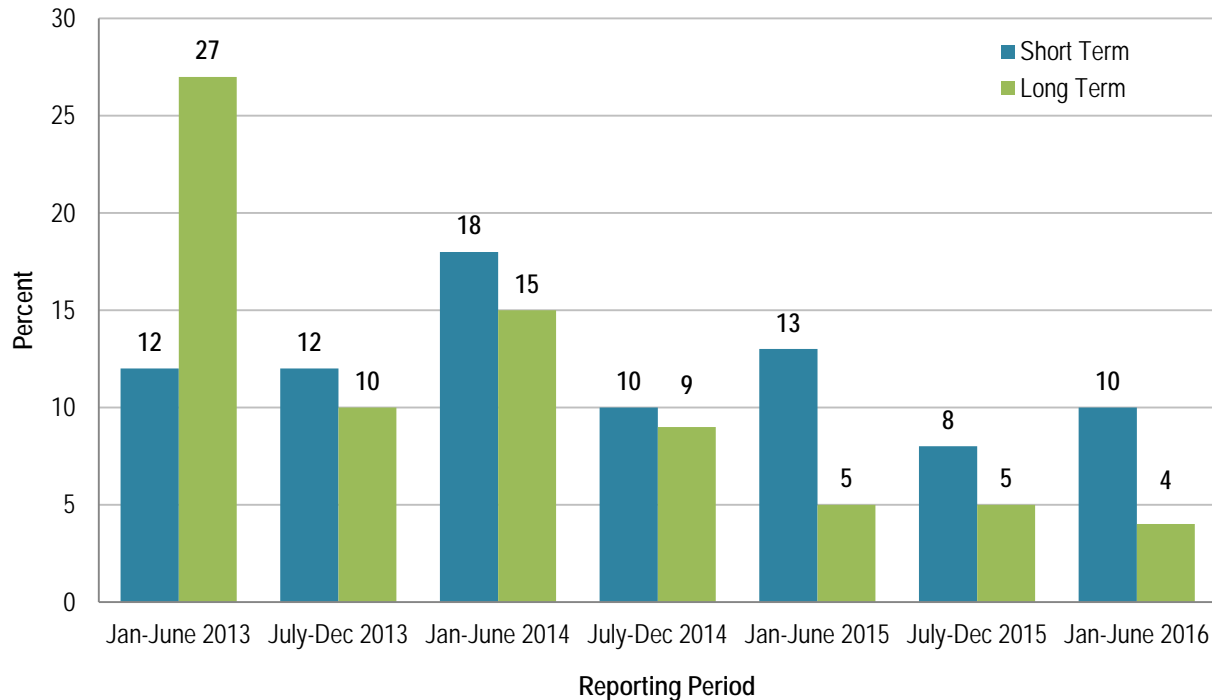


Table 11 compares the number of youth assessed as needing substance use/counseling, mental health, housing, and other services with the number of youth enrolled in or obtaining such services. Substance-use/counseling services take the lead, with 344 enrollments, followed by other services, with 119 enrollments. Because the Juvenile Drug Court Program requires youth to be younger than age 18 to obtain the services, housing services received the least number of referrals, as most youth live at home with their parents/guardians.

Table 11. Types of Services Provided to Participants: January–June 2016

| Performance Measure | Youth |
|---|-------|
| Youth assessed as needing substance use counseling/services | 286 |
| Youth enrolled in substance-use counseling/services | 344 |
| Youth assessed as needing mental health services | 133 |
| Youth enrolled in mental health services | 106 |
| Youth assessed as needing housing services | 23 |
| Youth who successfully found housing | 28 |
| Youth assessed as needing other services | 151 |
| Youth enrolled in other services | 119 |

3. Summary

Juvenile Drug Courts serve as a judicially supervised court system intended to strike a balance between protecting community safety and improving public health and well-being. During the January–June 2016 reporting period, 970 youth were served by 20 OJJDP-funded Juvenile Drug Court programs. In addition, 344 youth received substance-use services, 106 youth received mental-health services, and 119 youth received some other form of services. Two hundred ninety-eight youth exited the drug court program. Of those, 162 (54 percent) successfully exited by completing all program requirements. Ninety percent of the Juvenile Drug Court grantees that report data in the DCTAT use their funds toward some form of evidence-based practices in their program.