

Overview of the DCTAT Data for Juvenile Drug Court Program Grantees: July–December 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 December 31, 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 July–December 2016 reporting period.

- There were 21 active Juvenile Drug Court Program grantees, with a 90-percent reporting compliance rate.
- Juvenile justice agencies (33 percent) run the majority of the juvenile drug court programs, followed by units of local government and other government agencies.
- For short-term outcomes for targeted behaviors, of the youth in school attendance programs, 79 percent reached the targeted behavior; and of the youth in social competence programs, 83 percent demonstrated positive improvement in social skills.
- Substance use target behavior has the most youth participants (574), 260 of whom showed a reduction in substance use.
- One hundred forty-six out of 265 youth (55 percent) successfully exited juvenile drug court programs.
- Two hundred sixty-two youth were enrolled in substance use services, 105 were enrolled in mental health services, and 102 were enrolled in other types of services.
- Twenty-one active grantees implemented 83 programs, and 75 percent of those programs were evidence based.
- In the short term, out of 557 program youth, 8 percent were committed to a juvenile residential facility as a result of a new adjudication.
- According to long-term recidivism data, 344 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–December 2016), grantees have input 132 sets of program data, for a reporting compliance rate of 97 percent. During the July–December 2016 reporting period, 21 grants were active. Data were completed for 18 active grants (Table 1).

Table 1. Status of Federal Awards Reporting by Period: January 2012–December 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
July–December 2016	2	1	18	21
Total	3	1	132	136

Table 2 presents aggregate demographic data for July 2015–December 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: July 2015–December 2016

Population	Number of Grantees Serving Group During Reporting Period		
	July–December 2015	January–June 2016	July–December 2016
Race/Ethnicity			
American Indian/Alaska Native	3	4	7
Asian	4	4	7
Black/African American	15	15	28
Caucasian/Non-Latino	7	7	16
Hispanic or Latino (of Any Race)	12	12	21
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	2	2	5
Other Race	7	6	12
White/Caucasian	13	13	21
Youth Population Not Served Directly	4	4	2
Justice System Status			
At-Risk Population (No Prior Offense)	9	9	16
First-Time Offenders	13	12	24
Repeat Offenders	14	14	24
Sex Offenders	1	1	2
Status Offenders	7	7	12
Violent Offenders	3	3	7
Youth Population Not Served Directly	4	4	2
Gender			
Male	16	16	29
Female	16	15	29
Youth Population Not Served Directly	2	3	2

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	0	0
11–18	16	16	29
Over 18	4	4	8
Youth Population Not Served Directly	4	4	1
Geographic Area			
Rural	9	8	15
Suburban	11	13	21
Tribal	1	1	2
Urban	10	11	20
Youth Population Not Served Directly	4	4	2
Other			
Mental Health	14	13	24
Substance Use	17	17	30
Truant/Dropout	6	8	14

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 (Dollars)	Federal Award Used to Implement 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
July–December 2016	21	10,574,589	18 Yes; 2 No ⁴

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 July–December 2016 reporting period, there were 21 active grantees implementing 83 programs, and 75 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.

⁴ One grantee did not report on this question for the July–December 2016 reporting period.

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

Reporting Period	Total Number of Programs or Initiatives	Number of Programs/Initiatives Employing Evidence-Based Programs or Practices	Percentage 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
July–December 2016	83	62	75

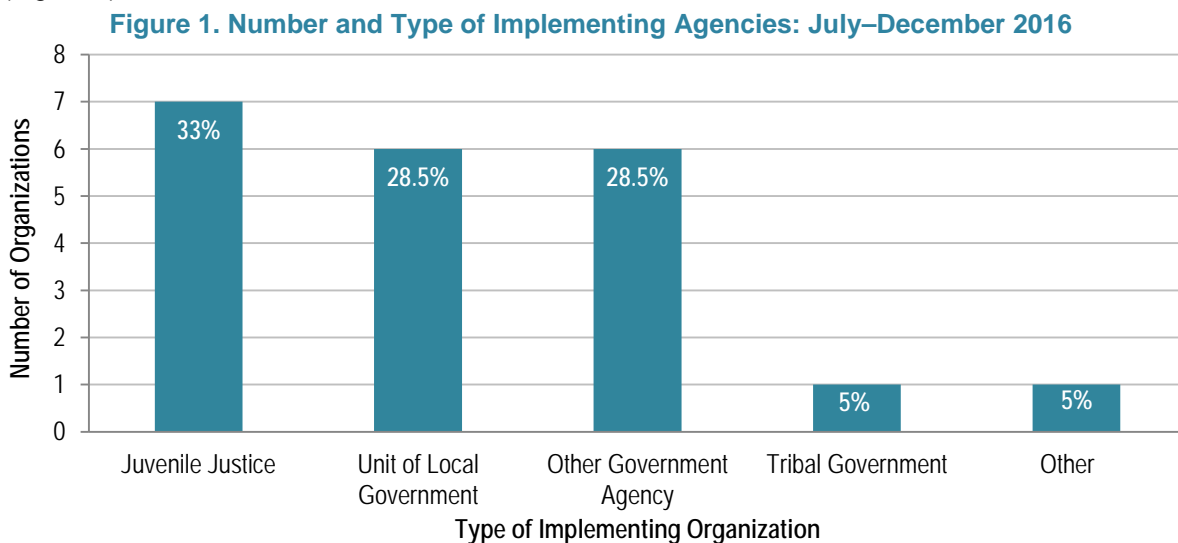
An examination of grant amounts by state based on current and active Juvenile Drug Court Program grants shows that Washington, DC, received the most funds, followed by Ohio, Florida, and North Carolina. Table 5 displays a comprehensive comparison of state award amounts. The amounts in the table represent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

Table 5. Total Grant Amount by State (Dollars): July–December 2016

Grantee State	N	Grant Amount (Dollars)	Grantee State	N	Grant Amount (Dollars)
AR	1	\$ 400,000	NE	1	\$ 400,000
CO	1	524,569	NY	1	400,000
DC	1	5,988,057	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	00,000	VA	2	800,000
MI	1	526,443	WA	1	526,443
NC	1	1,228,006	WV	1	400,000

1.2 Implementing Organization Type

Analysis of implementing agencies revealed that juvenile justice agencies ran the majority of drug courts (33 percent) and units of local government and other government agencies each accounted for 28.5 percent of the awards (Figure 1).



2. Analysis of Core Measures

During the July–December 2016 reporting period, Juvenile Drug Court Program grantees served 644 youth participants; 206 (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.

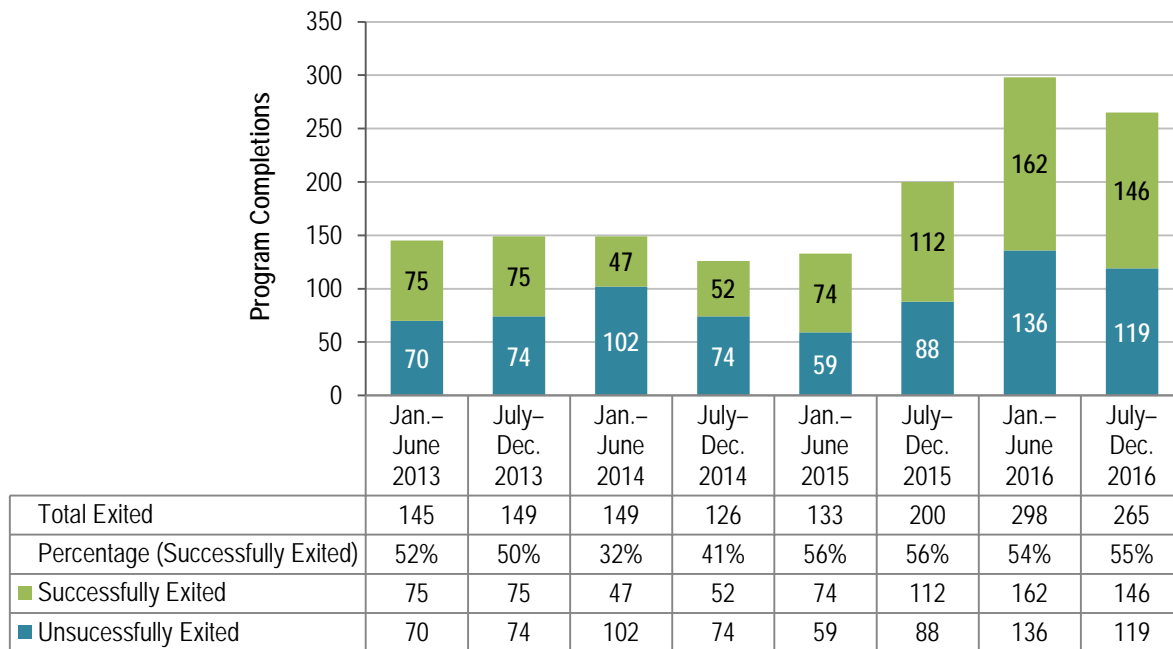
Table 6. Number of Program Youth Served During Reporting Period: January 2012–December 2016

Reporting Period	Number of Program Youth Carried Over from Previous Reporting Period	New Admissions During 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
July– December 2016	438	206	644

In addition, 265 youth exited the program (Figure 2). Of those enrolled youth who exited the program, 146 (55 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 (those who are expelled or leave voluntarily) 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 rates of successful exits (both at 56 percent).

Figure 2. Number of Program Youth Who Exited Program During Reporting Period: January 2013–December 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, 54 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 receiving school attendance services, 79 percent reached the targeted behavior; of the youth receiving social competence services, 83 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, 574 program youth received substance abuse treatment, and 260 of those youth showed a reduction in substance use.

Table 7. Target Behaviors (Short-Term Data): July–December 2016

Target Behavior	Youth Served	Youth with Intended Behavior Change	Percentage of Youth with Intended Behavior Change
Social Competence	47	39	83%
School Attendance	39	31	79
Family Relationships	69	48	70
Antisocial Behavior	79	57	72
Substance Use	574	260	45
Total	808	435	54

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, 34 percent of program youth exhibited an intended behavior change 6 to 12 months after program completion.

Table 8. Target Behaviors (Long-Term Data): July–December 2016

Target Behavior	Youth Served	Youth with Intended Behavior Change	Percentage of Youth with Intended Behavior Change
Social Competence	22	12	55%
School Attendance	14	14	100
High School Completion	9	2	22
Family Relationships	41	26	63
Antisocial Behavior	33	19	58
Substance Use	329	80	24
Total	448	153	34

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 half of Table 9, 533 youth were tracked for technical violations in the short term. Of those, 24 were committed to a juvenile residential facility, and 43 received some other sentence. No youth were sentenced to adult prison. The bottom half of Table 9 shows long-term measurement of technical violations for 362 youth who exited the program 6 to 12 months ago. Of those, 17 had a technical violation (4 percent).

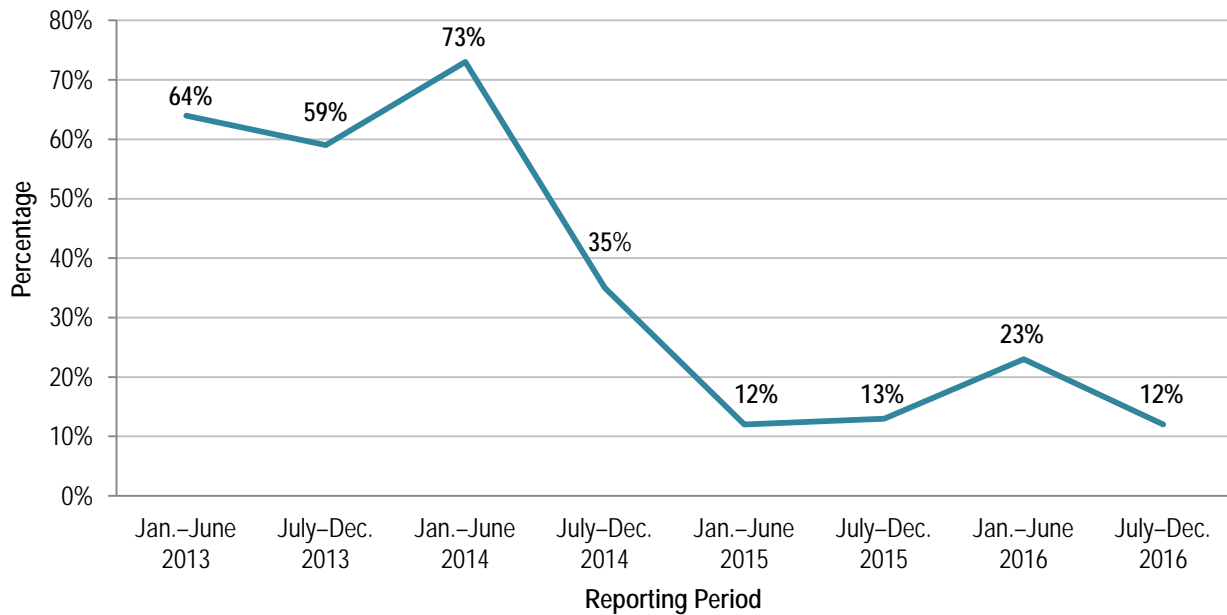
Table 9. Technical Violation Measures: July–December 2016

Performance Measure	Youth	Percentage
Youth committed to a juvenile residential facility	24	4%
Youth sentenced to adult prison	0	0
Youth who received some other sentence	43	8
Youth tracked for technical violations (short-term outcome)	533	
Total Technical Violations	67	12

Youth committed to a juvenile residential facility	4	1
Youth sentenced to adult prison	0	0
Youth received some other sentence	13	3
Youth tracked for technical violations (long-term outcome)	362	
Total Technical Violations	17	4

Figure 3 presents the short-term percentages of program youth who have committed a technical violation and received some form of punishment during the reporting period.⁵ The January–June 2015 and July–December 2016 reporting periods have the lowest rates of technical violations, and the January–June 2014 reporting period has the highest.

Figure 3. Percentage of Program Youth with Technical Violations (Short Term): January 2013–December 2016



As shown in the top half of Table 10, of the 557 program youth who were tracked for adjudications in the short term, 46 were committed to a juvenile residential facility as a result of a new adjudication. In addition, 2 were sentenced to adult prison, and 24 were given some other sentence. The bottom half of Table 10 shows long-term recidivism data; 344 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 (less than 1 percent) was sentenced to adult prison, and 4 (1 percent) were given some other sentence.

Table 10. Recidivism Measures for Program Youth Tracked: July–December 2016

Performance Measure	Youth	Percentage
Youth committed to a juvenile residential facility	46	8
Youth sentenced to adult prison	2	<1%
Youth given some other sentence	24	4
Youth tracked for adjudications (short-term outcome)	557	
Total New Adjudications	72	13
Youth recommitted to a juvenile residential facility	8	2
Youth sentenced to adult prison	1	<1%
Youth given some other sentence	4	1
Youth tracked for new adjudications (long-term outcome)	344	
Total New Adjudications	13	4

⁵ From July 2012 to 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–December 2016

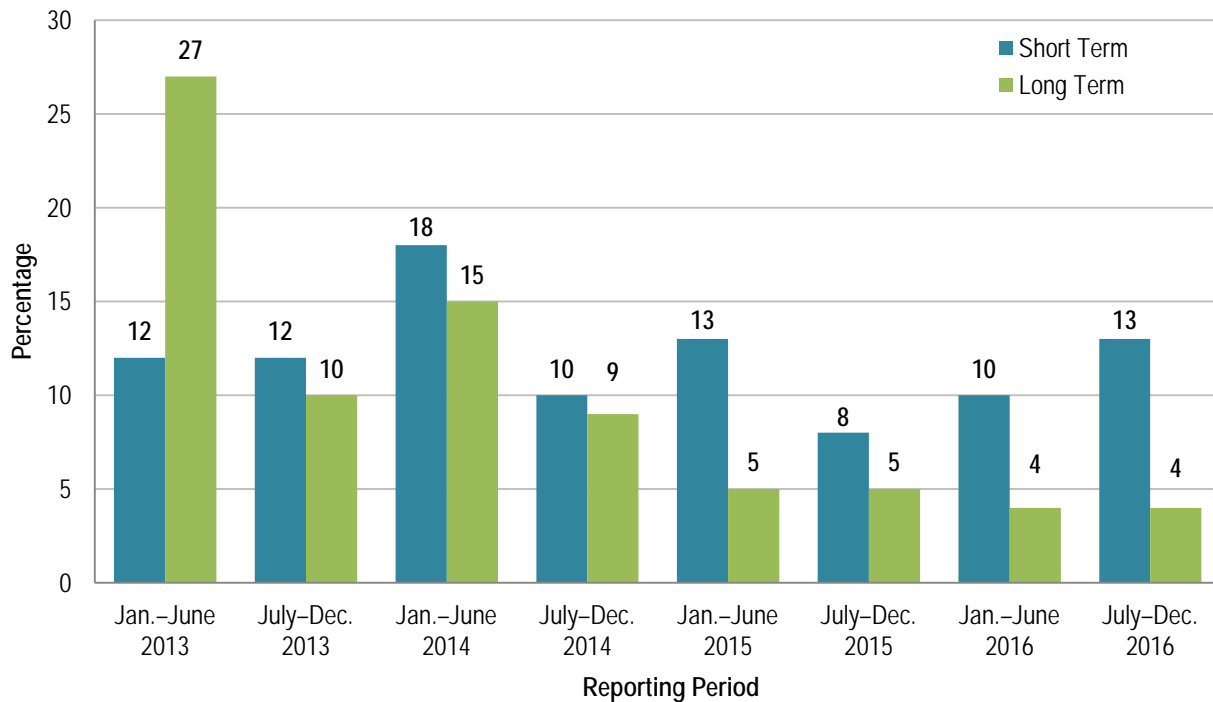


Table 11 compares the number of youth assessed as needing substance use/counseling, mental health, housing, and other services with the number of youth enrolled in or obtaining such services. Substance use/counseling services take the lead, with 262 enrollments, followed by mental health services, with 105 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, since most youth live at home with their parents/guardians.

Table 11. Types of Services Provided to Participants: July–December 2016

Performance Measure	Youth
Youth assessed as needing substance use counseling/services	267
Youth enrolled in substance use counseling/services	262
Youth assessed as needing mental health services	138
Youth enrolled in mental health services	105
Youth assessed as needing housing services	18
Youth who successfully found housing	29
Youth assessed as needing other services	105
Youth enrolled in other services	102

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 July–December 2016 reporting period, 644 youth were served by 83 OJJDP-funded Juvenile Drug Court programs. In addition, 262 youth received substance use services, 105 youth received mental health services, and 102 youth received some other form of services. Two hundred sixty-five youth exited the drug court program. Of those, 146 (55 percent) successfully exited by completing all program requirements. Eighty-six 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.