



Oregon Treatment Court Recidivism Analysis

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Statistical Analysis Center

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The Treatment Court Grant Program, administered by the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission (CJC), provides supplemental funding to support the operation of Oregon's treatment courts and their adherence to Oregon's Specialty Court (Treatment Court) Standards¹. These treatment courts provide an alternative to incarceration through court-directed supervision and mandated treatment for individuals with substance use or mental health issues underlying their involvement in the criminal legal system. This is the second recidivism analysis for adult treatment court participants in Oregon authored by the CJC in cooperation with the Oregon Judicial Department². The purpose of this report is to examine the recidivism rates for individuals who exited an Oregon treatment court program between January 1, 2020 and January 31, 2025 over one, two, and three-year periods. Please note that the data presented have been compiled specifically for this recidivism analysis. The data may not match other figures presented in CJC reports, dashboards, legislative fiscal requests, racial/ethnic impact statements, etc. due to different definitions, queries, time periods presented, and/or changes in record keeping practices within relevant agencies.

Key Takeaways:

- At three years post-exit, individuals who participated in an Oregon treatment court program, regardless of their exit type, had an overall arrest recidivism rate of 38 percent, conviction recidivism rate of 33 percent, and incarceration recidivism rate of seven percent.
- Individuals who completed or graduated from an Oregon treatment court had an overall arrest recidivism rate of 27 percent, conviction recidivism rate of 19 percent, and an incarceration recidivism rate of four percent.
- Individuals who participated in an Oregon treatment court but were discharged or terminated had an overall arrest rate of 52 percent, conviction rate of 49 percent, and incarceration rate of 10 percent.
- When compared to a matched probation comparison group, individuals with any level of participation in an Oregon treatment court had lower rates of recidivism across all three measures. The greatest differences between three-year rates are among the treatment court group with successful exits and their corresponding comparison group with a difference of 22 percentage points in arrest recidivism rates, 22 percentage points in conviction recidivism rates, and five percentage points in incarceration recidivism rates.

¹ [OregonSpecialtyCourtStandards.pdf](#)

² The first recidivism report for Oregon treatment courts authored by the CJC can be found here: [Microsoft Word - Recidivism in Oregon Specialty Courts Supplement November 2023](#)

Methodology

The Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS 423.557)³ defines recidivism as the arrest, conviction or incarceration of a person who has previously been convicted of a crime, if the arrest, conviction, or incarceration is for a new crime and occurs: (a) Three years or less after the date the person was convicted of the previous crime; or (b) Three years or less after the date the person was released from custody, if the person was incarcerated as a result of the conviction for the previous crime. The sample representing the Oregon treatment court group includes only individuals exiting an adult drug treatment court, mental health court, DUI court, or a veterans' treatment court between January 1, 2020 and January 31, 2025. For the purposes of this analysis, exiting a treatment court is equated to a release from custody, as it represents the end of the treatment court program's oversight as well as the end of court-facilitated treatment for an individual. Arrest, conviction, and incarceration rates are each tracked as separate measures, and one participant could contribute to zero, one, or more recidivism measures. Follow-up periods of one, two, and three years were used as benchmarks. The sample group for each benchmark included only individuals who met the length of time at risk. For example, only individuals having at least one-year post-exit were included in the sample for one-year recidivism rates. The same is true for rates at years two and three.

Rates of arrest, conviction, and incarceration at each benchmark were analyzed for the following groups: (1) the first group consists of individuals who were referred to and participated in an Oregon treatment court, including both successful and unsuccessful exits to represent program participation at any level; (2) the second group contains those who were referred, participated, and ultimately completed or graduated from a treatment court program; (3) the third group contains those individuals who were referred and participated, at some level in a program, although they were discharged or terminated from the program before completion; (4) the final group contains a matched probation comparison group. The CJC regularly tracks recidivism cohorts for individuals released from incarceration or sentenced to probation⁴, with these outcomes approximating the criminal justice system trajectory of many treatment court participants, but for their participation in the program. To form an adequate comparison group, these individuals were matched with treatment court participants based on variables likely associated with recidivism outcomes, such as demographic and criminal history information. Variables on which each pair were matched included age, sex, race, geographical region, recidivism start date, and risk level. Risk levels for each individual were determined by their Public Safety Checklist (PSC) score. The PSC is a validated assessment tool used by the CJC to compute the probability of an individual being re-convicted of a felony or re-arrested for a person or property offense based on objective risk factors associated with the individual's criminal history⁵.

Data Sources

The CJC uses data from the Oregon State Police (OSP), the Oregon Judicial Department (OJD), and the Oregon Department of Corrections (ODOC) to analyze recidivism. OJD provided a list of identified treatment court participants and their SID numbers pursuant to data use agreements, as this group of individuals constitutes the population analyzed within this report and identifying details were necessary to link individuals across data streams. Additionally, the CJC used data from the ODOC to create a matched comparison group of probationers. Law Enforcement Data Systems (LEDS) data from OSP allows the CJC to query arrests for which the individual was fingerprinted, which is required in arrests for felony crimes, drug crimes, as well as sex offenses.

³ ORS 423.557 – "Recidivism" defined for statistical evaluations

⁴ 2025_December_Recidivism_Report.pdf

⁵ Criminal Justice Commission: Welcome Page : Risktool : State of Oregon

Importantly, arrests that do not require fingerprinting are omitted from the CJC's recidivism analysis. Data from OJD includes circuit court data, allowing the tracking of misdemeanor and felony convictions, but does not include municipal court data. Finally, ODOC data allows the CJC to track incarceration and supervision for individuals.

Considerations and Limitations

Although experimental design is the gold standard for creating a recidivism comparison group, such an approach would create ethical concerns within a criminal justice setting as it would require random assignment of individuals into a treatment group versus a control group. The comparison group compiled for the analyses in this report were matched to the treatment court sample on demographic, location, and recidivism risk levels. However, the CJC was not able to account for biopsychosocial risk factors such as housing stability or the presence of substance use disorders, which also have the potential to impact outcomes. Another important consideration to highlight when interpreting the recidivism rates listed in this report are the potential variations in any individual's time at liberty. For example, regarding the treatment court sample groups, unsuccessful exits do not account for restrictive placements that would impact an individual's time at liberty or risk window such as time in a local jail or revocations to prison. Moreover, the specific dosage, intensity, and duration of supervision for the DOC probation comparison group is not captured in this analysis. Because exiting a treatment court is equated to a release from custody, the clock-start for recidivism follow-up window began at program exit date for the treatment court group. For the comparison group, the clock-start for recidivism follow-up began at either release from custody or start of probation. The differences between potential supervision factors among each group should be taken into account when comparing final rates and care should be taken in generalizing comparisons made within this report.

Additionally, the treatment court sample for the recidivism analyses includes participants who exited an adult drug court, mental health court, DUI Court, or veterans' treatment court from January 1, 2020, to January 31, 2025. The World Health Organization officially declared the COVID-19 outbreak a global pandemic in March of 2020, ultimately declaring a public health emergency in May of 2023. Prior analyses by the CJC show a substantial reduction in traffic stops, arrests, and prison and probation intakes over the COVID-19 pandemic⁶. Further, the implementation of Oregon's Measure 110 in February 2021 has been associated with a one to five percent decrease in recidivism rates across Oregon probation and parole cohorts⁷. Oregon House Bill 4002 (2024) later created a new misdemeanor crime for unlawful possession of a controlled substance in quantities that previously were covered by a Class E Violation and went into effect September 1, 2024. The trends associated with these substantial events should be considered when examining the recidivism rates in this report, as the follow-up period for treatment court participants coincides with the timeframe of these policy changes.

Lastly, capturing information on who declines or is denied entry to an Oregon treatment court program provides useful context about who is being referred to and admitted in these programs. However, the reason individuals declined to participate or were denied entry into a treatment court program are not captured in this analysis. The CJC cannot determine whether those reasons were likely to have impacted recidivism outcomes. Some courts, for example, may be unable to accept a client due to the severity or type of their charge, or for another reason such as the individual

⁶ https://www.oregon.gov/cjc/CJC%20Document%20Library/COVID_impacts_part1.pdf

⁷ <https://www.oregon.gov/cjc/CJC%20Document%20Library/Recidivism%20Report%20November%202022.pdf>

referred having absconded. Therefore, this group is included in the demographics section of this report but removed from the recidivism analyses as comparing their outcomes to those who participated in a treatment court program are likely to yield a biased result⁸.

Characteristics of Oregon Treatment Court Referrals and Participants

Demographic characteristics of 5,475 Oregon treatment court referrals and participants were analyzed across three groups: (1) the first group included 1,613 individuals referred to, but did not participate in a treatment court program (i.e., denied or declined); (2) the second group included 1,782 individuals who participated at some level but were discharged or terminated early (i.e., unsuccessful exits); (3) the third group included 2,080 individuals that participated in and graduated or completed a treatment court program (i.e., successful exits). Further, Table 1 shows a breakdown of each treatment court group by race, sex, and average years of age.

Table 1. Demographic Characteristics of Treatment Court Participants by Exit Type

Referred: Denied or Declined Entry			Participated: Unsuccessful Exits		Participated: Successful Exits	
Race	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
American Indian or Alaskan Native	49	3.04%	55	3.09%	58	2.79%
Asian	7	0.43%	22	1.23%	17	0.82%
Black	97	6.01%	127	7.13%	116	5.58%
Hispanic	170	10.54%	152	8.53%	199	9.57%
Multiple Racial Identities	1	0.06%	1	0.06%	0	0.00%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	1	0.06%	3	0.17%	1	0.05%
Unknown	2	0.12%	2	0.11%	5	0.24%
White	1286	79.73%	1,420	79.69%	1,684	80.96%
Total	1613	100%	1782	100%	2080	100%
Sex	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Female	371	23.00%	486	27.27%	640	30.77%
Male	1,242	77.00%	1296	73.73%	1440	69.23%
Total	1,613	100%	1,782	100%	2,080	100%
Age at Exit	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD
Years of Age	36.82	10.29	36.68	10.24	38.23	10.75

Although the frequencies vary, the proportions of each racial and ethnic group are similar across referral and exit types. Around 80 percent of individuals in each treatment court group are White. Combined, all racial or ethnic minority groups made up 20 percent or less of each referral or participation group. On average, 10 percent of each group were Hispanic, 6 percent of each group were Black, one percent or less of each group were Asian, three percent were American Indian or Alaskan Native, and less than one percent were Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander, of multiple race groups, or unknown. Sex of the individual referred or participating in each group demonstrates slightly more variability. Male participants make up the largest percentage of each group. Female participants make up 23 percent of those referred but not participating (i.e., denied or declined). The share of female participants rises to 27 percent for those who were discharged or terminated (i.e., unsuccessful exits) and 31 percent for those who successfully completed or graduated from a successful program (i.e., successful exits). Finally, the average age of participants and the corresponding standard deviation in each treatment court group are relatively similar. For the group of referrals who were denied or declined participation, the average age was 36.8 years. The

⁸ See page 101 of the Manual for Scientific Monitoring and Evaluation at [Manual for Scientific Monitoring and Evaluation.pdf](#)

participants with unsuccessful exits had an average age of 35.7 years. The participants with successful exits had an average age of 38.2 years.

Table 2 shows a breakdown of each group by court type and region. To help maintain the confidentiality of treatment court participants, court type and region are not cross tabulated. Additionally, location data are rolled up to a regional level. The counties within each region are listed in Appendix A. Regions used in this report mirror those in the CJC’s biannual recidivism reports and corresponding dashboard⁹: Central and Eastern; Metro; Northwest and Coastal; Southwest.

Table 2. Treatment Court Program Exits by Court Type and Region

Court Type	Referred: Denied or Declined Entry		Participated: Unsuccessful Exits		Participated: Successful Exits	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
DUII	35	2%	50	3%	148	7%
Drug	1057	66%	1197	67%	1275	61%
Mental Health	461	29%	504	28%	543	26%
Veterans	60	4%	31	2%	114	5%
Total	1613	100.00%	1782	100.00%	2080	100.00%
Region	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Central & East	216	13%	264	15%	241	12%
Metro	625	39%	783	44%	926	45%
Northwest & Coastal	278	17%	323	18%	367	18%
Southwest	494	31%	412	23%	546	26%
Total	1613	100%	1782	100%	2080	100%

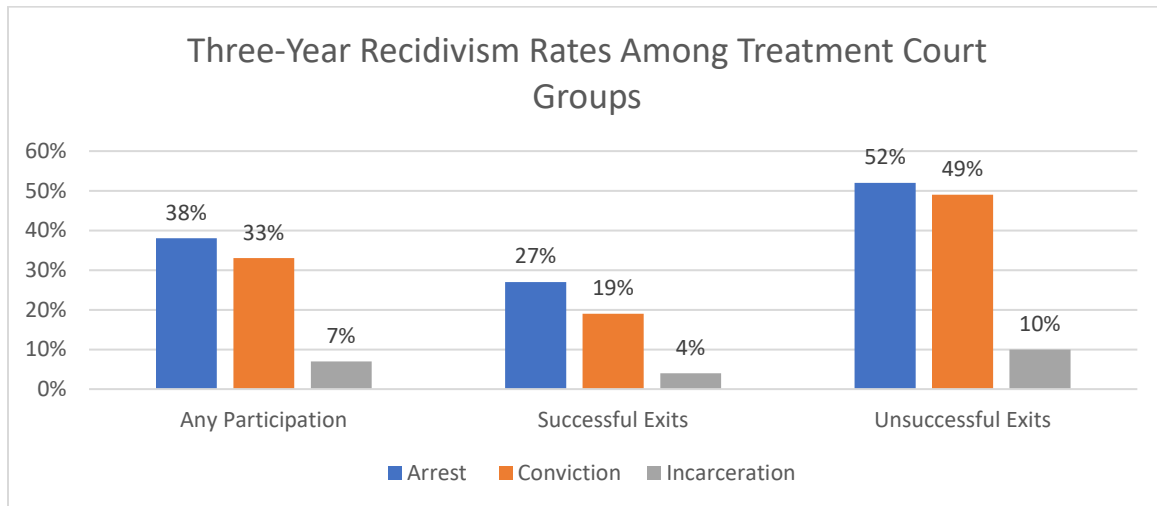
Proportions within court types remained somewhat similar across exit groups. Referrals to DUII Courts made up two percent of the individuals who declined to participate or were denied entry, three percent of participants who were discharged or terminated unsuccessfully, and a slightly higher seven percent of participants who successfully completed a treatment court program. Adult drug court referrals made up 66 percent of the individuals in the denied or declined group, 67 percent of unsuccessful exits, and 61 percent of successful exits. Mental health court referrals made up 29 percent of the denied or declined group, 28 percent of the unsuccessful exits, and 26 percent of the successful exits. Veterans’ court referrals made up four percent of the denied or declined group, two percent of the unsuccessful exits, and a slightly higher five percent of the successful exits. The Metro region made up the largest proportion in each exit group followed by the Southwest region. The Central and Eastern Region had the smallest portion of treatment court referrals and participants.

Recidivism in Oregon Treatment Courts

Recidivism rates for Oregon treatment court participants who exited a program between January 1, 2020 and January 31, 2025, were calculated across three groups using measures for arrest, conviction, and incarceration. Each group was examined at benchmarks of one, two, and three-years post-exit. Individuals who declined to participate or were denied entry to a treatment court program were removed from the analyses. Individuals with any amount of participation in a treatment court program represent an intent-to-treat group ($n = 3,862$), which includes both successful and unsuccessful exit types. This group was then broken down into two categories,

⁹ See [Recidivism | Tableau Public](#)

successful exits ($n = 2,080$) and unsuccessful exits ($n = 1,782$). Participants with an exit type of “Graduated” or “Completed not Graduated” were categorized as successful exits and represent having completed a full treatment court program. Participants with an exit type of “Terminated” or “Discharge” were categorized as unsuccessful exits and represent having completed some but not all of a treatment court program. Figure 1 shows the rate for each recidivism measure across all three groups.



Across all recidivism measures, the lowest recidivism rates were among participants with successful exits. At three years post exit, this group had an arrest rate of 27 percent, a conviction rate of 19 percent, and an incarceration rate of four percent. The group of participants with unsuccessful exits had an arrest rate of 52 percent, a conviction rate of 49 percent, and an incarceration rate of 10 percent. From an intent-to-treat perspective, the group with any level of participation, had an arrest rate of 38 percent, conviction rate of 33 percent, and an incarceration rate of seven percent. While only a portion of treatment court program participants contributed to overall recidivism rates, drawing attention to the average timing of recidivating events can help provide additional context. As this report examined recidivism patterns over a three-year period, Table 3 shows the average number of days from exit until initial and most severe recidivating events within each treatment court group that reached the three-year benchmark.

Table 3. Average Days to Recidivating Event by Treatment Court Group

Treatment Court Group	Average Days to Event	
	First Arrest	Most Severe Arrest
Any Participation	393	488
Successful Exits	440	522
Unsuccessful Exits	363	467
	Average Days to Event	
	First Conviction	Most Severe Conviction
Any Participation	343	389
Successful Exits	479	516
Unsuccessful Exits	286	411
	Average Days to Event	
	First Incarceration	Most Severe Incarceration
Any Participation	577	601
Successful Exits	594	607
Unsuccessful Exits	569	597

From an intent-to-treat perspective, the recidivating group with any participation in a treatment court averaged 393 days from program exit to an initial recidivating arrest and 488 days from program exit to the most severe recidivating arrest an average of 343 days from program exit to initial recidivating conviction and 389 days from program exit to most serious recidivating conviction, and an average of 577 days from program exit to initial recidivating incarceration event and 601 days from program exit to most severe recidivating incarceration event. Of the two distinct treatment court exit types, the group comprised of individuals who participated in but unsuccessfully exited a treatment court program had fewer days to each recidivating event for both initial and most severe event. This recidivating group averaged just less than one year to initial arrest, 286 days to first conviction, and 569 days to first incarceration event. There was an average of 467 days to the most severe arrest, 411 days to the most severe conviction, and 597 days to the most severe incarceration event.

In addition to calculating the rates of new arrest, conviction, and incarceration events among each group, each measure was broken down into crime categories for the initial and most severe event. Table 4 shows crime categories for the initial arrest, conviction, and incarceration event for each treatment court group over a three-year period. Table 5 shows the crime categories for the most serious event for each recidivism measure across treatment court groups over a three-year period.

Table 4. Crime Categories for Initial Recidivating Events at Year Three by Treatment Court Groups

Crime Category	First Arrest		
	Any Participation	Successful	Unsuccessful
Driving	8%	10%	7%
Drug	12%	12%	12%
Other	40%	39%	40%
Person	19%	22%	18%
Property	21%	18%	23%
Total	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

Crime Category	First Conviction		
	Any Participation	Successful	Unsuccessful
Driving	11%	14%	10%
Drug	13%	13%	14%
Other	22%	24%	21%
Person	24%	28%	23%
Property	30%	22%	33%
Total	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

Crime Category	First Incarceration		
	Any Participation	Successful	Unsuccessful
Driving	9%	8%	9%
Drug	10%	15%	8%
Other	11%	13%	10%
Person	35%	44%	32%
Property	35%	20%	42%
Total	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

For individuals with at least one new arrest over a three-year period, the most common crime category was “Other” at around 40 percent for each group. Crimes that may be categorized as “Other” include criminal trespassing, disorderly conduct, unlawful firearm possession, and driving while license is suspended or revoked. From an intent-to-treat perspective, the group of individuals

with any participation in a treatment court program show the second highest crime category for initial arrest was property crimes (21 percent), followed by person crimes (19 percent), drug crimes (12 percent) and driving related crimes (8 percent). Initial convictions for this group show the most common crime category to be property crimes (30 percent), followed by person crimes (24 percent), “Other” crimes (22 percent), drug crimes (13 percent), and driving related crimes (11 percent). Initial incarceration events for this group show equal proportions of person and property crimes (35 percent), followed by “Other” crimes (11 percent), drug crimes (10 percent), and driving related crimes (9 percent).

Table 5. Crime Categories for Most Serious Recidivating Events at Year Three by Treatment Court Groups

Crime Category	Most Severe Arrest		
	Any Participation	Successful	Unsuccessful
Driving	10%	11%	9%
Drug	17%	16%	18%
Other	41%	41%	42%
Person	16%	19%	14%
Property	16%	14%	17%
Total	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

Crime Category	Most Severe Conviction		
	Any Participation	Successful	Unsuccessful
Driving	11%	15%	10%
Drug	14%	13%	14%
Other	21%	23%	20%
Person	24%	27%	23%
Property	30%	22%	34%
Total	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

Crime Category	Most Severe Incarceration		
	Any Participation	Successful	Unsuccessful
Driving	6%	6%	6%
Drug	11%	20%	7%
Other	9%	8%	10%
Person	37%	48%	32%
Property	36%	18%	45%
Total	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

When looking at the most severe arrest, the crime category “Other” remained the most common and driving crimes remained the lowest across all groups. For the group of individuals with any participation in a treatment court, the most common category remained “Other” (41 percent), followed by drug crimes (17 percent), then equal proportions of property and person crimes (16 percent), and driving crimes (10 percent). When examining the most severe convictions for the intent-to-treat group, property crimes were the highest (30 percent), followed by person crimes (24 percent), “Other” crimes (21 percent), drug crimes (14 percent), and driving crimes (11 percent). The most severe incarceration events for this group are most commonly person crimes (37 percent) and property crimes (36 percent), followed by drug crimes (11 percent), “Other” crimes (9 percent), and driving crimes (6 percent).

Further breakdown of recidivating events shows the portion of each arrest, conviction, and incarceration event across court type and region. Table 6 displays these rates within court types and Table 7 displays rates by region across all treatment court exit groups. To preserve

confidentiality, court types are not cross tabulated with region. The lowest recidivism rates across all measures and exit groups were among veterans' courts. Successful exits had much lower arrest and conviction rates than unsuccessful exits. Incarceration rates for the successful group were also lower but with less variation. The recidivating group with any participation in a treatment court program showed the lowest rates across all three measures for veterans' court with a 19 percent arrest recidivism rate, 18 percent conviction recidivism rate, and two percent incarceration recidivism rate.

Table 6. Three-Year Recidivism Rates Across Treatment Court Groups by Court Types

Measure by Group	Court Type			
	DUII	Drug	Mental Health	Veterans
Any Participation				
Arrest	31%	38%	44%	19%
Conviction	20%	34%	36%	18%
Incarceration	5%	7%	6%	2%
Successful				
Arrest	24%	27%	30%	19%
Conviction	13%	18%	22%	13%
Incarceration	4%	4%	3%	0%
Unsuccessful				
Arrest	49%	50%	60%	19%
Conviction	37%	49%	51%	33%
Incarceration	6%	11%	9%	10%

As shown in Table 7, the arrest and conviction rates for the intent-to-treat group were the lowest in the Metro region with a 36 percent arrest recidivism rate and 27 percent conviction recidivism rate. However, the incarceration recidivism rate was the same (six percent) for all regions aside from the Northwest and Coastal region (nine percent).

Table 7. Three-Year Recidivism Rates Across Treatment Court Groups by Region.

	Region			
	Central & East	Metro	NW & Coastal	SW
Any Participation				
Arrest	38%	36%	47%	38%
Conviction	38%	27%	41%	35%
Incarceration	6%	6%	9%	6%
Successful Exits				
Arrest	23%	23%	38%	27%
Conviction	19%	14%	29%	19%
Incarceration	1%	3%	8%	3%
Unsuccessful Exits				
Arrest	51%	50%	56%	52%
Conviction	55%	42%	53%	56%
Incarceration	12%	10%	9%	11%

Though the CJC uses a three-year window to define overall recidivism rates, the analyses in this report also capture rates at one and two years after exiting a treatment court program. Table 8 shows the rates of each recidivism measure by exit group for each benchmark. The analysis group comprised of individuals with successful exits show the lowest rates for arrest, conviction, and

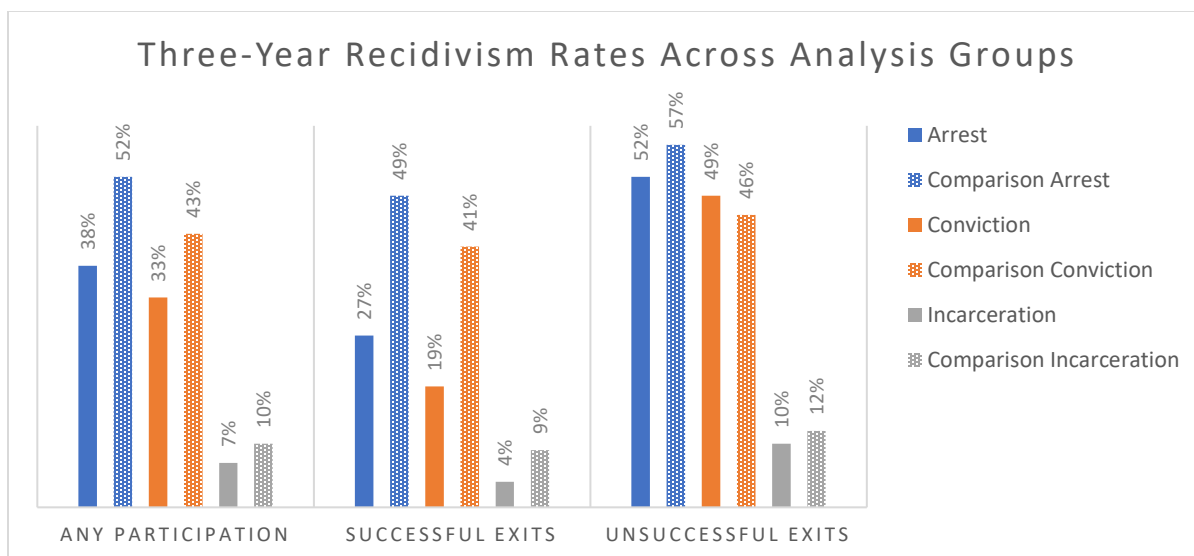
incarceration recidivism across all three years. The group of individuals with any treatment court program participation show arrest and conviction recidivism rates of 19 percent and an incarceration recidivism rate of two percent during the first year after program exit. Year two shows an increase to a 32 percent arrest recidivism rate, 28 percent conviction recidivism rate, and a four percent incarceration recidivism rate.

Table 8. Frequency of Arrest, Conviction, and Incarceration among Treatment Court Participants

Measure	Any Participation			Successful Exits			Unsuccessful Exits		
	Count	<i>n</i>	Percent	Count	<i>n</i>	Percent	Count	<i>n</i>	Percent
Arrest									
Year 1	691	3640	19%	236	1942	12%	455	1698	27%
Year 2	923	2928	32%	341	1539	22%	582	1389	42%
Year 3	845	2202	38%	311	1173	27%	534	1029	52%
Conviction									
Year 1	689	3640	19%	127	1942	7%	562	1698	33%
Year 2	811	2928	28%	218	1539	14%	593	1389	43%
Year 3	723	2202	33%	218	1173	19%	505	1029	49%
Incarceration									
Year 1	67	3640	2%	18	1942	1%	49	1698	3%
Year 2	115	2928	4%	37	1539	2%	78	1389	6%
Year 3	145	2202	7%	41	1173	4%	104	1029	10%

Recidivism Rates for Matched Comparison Group

To form an adequate comparison group for these analyses, the CJC matched each individual from the treatment court roster with an individual from the Oregon DOC probation dataset with the same demographic and location information, as well as the same PSC risk level. When interpreting the differences between the treatment court groups and the comparison group, it is important to consider that the duration and intensity of supervision cycles were not accounted for in these analyses. Figure 2 displays the three-year recidivism rates of the treatment court groups alongside the rates of their corresponding comparison groups.



The greatest differences between three-year rates are among the treatment court group with successful exits and their corresponding comparison group with a difference of 22 percentage

points in arrest recidivism rates, 22 percentage points in conviction recidivism rates, and five percentage points in incarceration recidivism rates. The three-year conviction recidivism rates for individuals who unsuccessfully exited a treatment court program (49 percent) were slightly higher than the rate of the corresponding comparison group (46 percent). Otherwise, the three-year recidivism rates across all treatment court exit groups remain lower than those of their corresponding comparison groups.

As the comparison population were not participants in an Oregon treatment court program, recidivism rates were not compared to treatment court outcomes within court types. However, rates for the analysis group with any treatment court participation and the corresponding comparison group were broken down by region and are displayed in Table 9.

Table 9. Three-Year Recidivism Rates Across Analysis Groups by Region

Region	Arrest Recidivism		Conviction Recidivism		Incarceration Recidivism	
	Any Participation	Comparison	Any Participation	Comparison	Any Participation	Comparison
Central/East	38%	60%	38%	54%	6%	11%
Metro	36%	49%	27%	40%	6%	11%
NW/ Coastal	47%	56%	41%	47%	9%	10%
SW	38%	52%	35%	42%	6%	9%

As shown in Table 9, three-year recidivism rates were lower across all measures for the treatment court groups than the comparison groups in all four regions. The largest differences between the recidivism rates of the treatment court group and the comparison group were within the central and eastern region. There was a 22 percentage point difference between the arrest recidivism rates for the treatment court group (38 percent) and the comparison group (60 percent), a 16 percentage point difference between the conviction recidivism rates for the treatment court group (38 percent) and the comparison group (54 percent), and a five percentage point difference between the incarceration recidivism rates for the treatment court group (six percent) and the comparison group (11 percent). The lowest differences across all recidivism measures are within the northwest and coastal region. There was a nine percentage point difference between the arrest recidivism rates for the treatment court group (47 percent) and the comparison group (56 percent), a six percentage point difference between the conviction recidivism rates for the treatment court group (41 percent) and the comparison group (47 percent), and a one percentage point difference between the incarceration recidivism rates of the treatment court group (nine percent) and the comparison group (10 percent).

Further analysis of the recidivating events among both sample populations demonstrates that the recidivating measures within both analysis groups were relatively similar over a three-year period. Table 10 shows crime categories for the initial and most severe arrest, conviction, and incarceration for the group with any treatment court participation and the corresponding matched comparison group over a three-year period.

Table 10. Crime Categories for Most Serious Recidivating Events at Year Three by Analysis Group

Crime Category	First Arrest		Most Severe Arrest	
	Any Participation	Comparison	Any Participation	Comparison
Driving	8%	9%	10%	10%
Drug	12%	12%	17%	18%
Other	40%	46%	41%	46%
Person	19%	15%	16%	13%
Property	21%	18%	16%	13%
Total	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

Crime Category	First Conviction		Most Severe Conviction	
	Any Participation	Comparison	Any Participation	Comparison
Driving	11%	14%	11%	15%
Drug	13%	11%	14%	12%
Other	22%	25%	21%	22%
Person	24%	20%	24%	21%
Property	30%	30%	30%	30%
Total	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

Crime Category	First Incarceration		Most Severe Incarceration	
	Any Participation	Comparison	Any Participation	Comparison
Driving	9%	8%	6%	6%
Drug	10%	8%	11%	8%
Other	11%	11%	9%	11%
Person	35%	37%	37%	37%
Property	35%	36%	36%	39%
Total	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

Each crime category within initial recidivism events and most severe recidivism events are relatively proportionate across groups with slight variation. Like the treatment court group, the most common category for initial recidivating arrest and most severe recidivating arrest among the comparison group were “other” crimes. Additionally, the most common category for initial and most severe recidivating conviction was property crimes. The proportion of this crime category was equal across both groups for initial and most severe conviction at 30 percent. However, for the comparison group the most common crime category for the initial recidivating incarceration event was person crimes while the treatment court group had person and property crimes as majority of initial arrest, both at 35 percent.

Finally, when looking at the recidivism rates for the group comprised of individuals with any participation in an Oregon treatment court program alongside the matched probation group, each measure shows a lower rate for treatment court participants. Table 11 displays the frequency of each recidivating event, total sample size for each corresponding year, and the recidivism rate for each measure for each of the examined groups. The largest difference between recidivism rates for individuals with any participation in an Oregon treatment court and the matched comparison group were among the arrest recidivism rates. There was a difference of 17 percentage points at the one-year benchmark, 14 percentage points at the two-year benchmark, and 14 percentage points at the three-year benchmark. However, it is important to interpret these rates within the context of the aforementioned limitations, as the one-year window for the treatment court groups begins at program exit and the window for the comparison group begins while they are on probation.

Table 11. Frequency of Recidivism Events Among Analysis Groups by Year

Measure	Any Participation			Comparison Group		
	Frequency	N	%	Frequency	N	%
Arrest						
Year 1	691	3640	19%	1294	3640	36%
Year 2	923	2928	32%	1357	2928	46%
Year 3	845	2202	38%	1152	2202	52%
Conviction						
Year 1	689	3640	19%	879	3640	24%
Year 2	811	2928	28%	1060	2928	36%
Year 3	723	2202	33%	955	2202	43%
Incarceration						
Year 1	67	3640	2%	123	3640	3%
Year 2	115	2928	4%	204	2928	7%
Year 3	145	2202	7%	228	2202	10%

As displayed in Table 11, treatment court participants had a 19 percent arrest recidivism rate at the one-year benchmark, while the comparison group had an arrest recidivism rate of 36 percent. Arrest recidivism rates increased to 32 percent for the treatment court group and 46 percent for the comparison group after two years. The three-year arrest recidivism rate for the treatment court group was 38 percent compared to 52 percent for the comparison group.

Conclusion

When examining recidivism rates for individuals who exited an Oregon treatment court between January 1, 2020 and January 31, 2025, the CJC found that individuals with any level of participation had a three-year arrest recidivism rate of 38 percent, conviction recidivism rate of 33 percent, and incarceration recidivism rate of seven percent. The three-year recidivism rates for the treatment court analysis group were lower than those in the matched comparison group. When breaking down the treatment court group by region, the lowest three-year recidivism rates were in the metro region. When breaking down the treatment court group by court program type, the lowest three-year recidivism rates were among veterans' court programs. While the rates in this report provide insight into the efficacy of the Oregon treatment courts in reducing recidivism across all measures, there are many factors and limitations to consider when interpreting the results of these analyses. The data presented in this briefing have been compiled specifically to this report in adherence to a defined data use agreement between the Oregon Judicial Department and the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission. The data may not match other figures presented in CJC reports, dashboards, legislative fiscal requests, racial/ethnic impact statements, etc. due to different definitions, queries, time periods presented, and/or changes in record keeping practices within relevant agencies. Additionally, methodology used in the CJC's evaluation of recidivism among Oregon treatment court participants may change over time to address limitations as policies and data practices evolve over time. Therefore, the rates in this report should not be compared to those in previous or forthcoming data request briefings or annual reports.

Appendix A: List of Counties Within Each Regional Category

Table A. List of Counties by Region

Central and Eastern	Metro Region	Northwest and Coastal	Southwest
Baker County	Clackamas County	Benton County	Coos County
Crook County	Lane County	Clatsop County	Curry County
Deschutes County	Marion County	Columbia County	Douglas County
Gilliam County	Multnomah County	Lincoln County	Jackson County
Grant County	Washington County	Linn County	Josephine County
Harney County		Polk County	Klamath County
Hood River County		Tillamook County	Lake County
Jefferson County		Yamhill County	
Malheur County			
Morrow County			
Sherman County			
Umatilla County			
Union County			
Wallowa County			
Wasco County			
Wheeler County			