

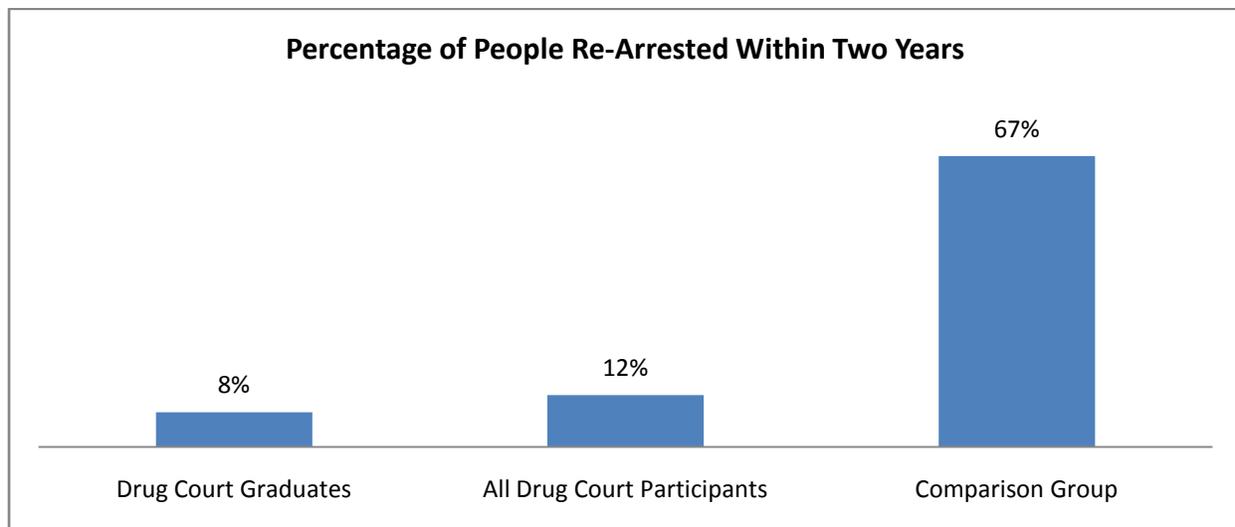
SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, JOSHUA TREE DRUG COURT COST STUDY FACT SHEET

The following statistics are part of a multi-site evaluation of the costs and benefits of California’s drug courts. This fact sheet is a component of Phase III, statewide launch phase, of a research effort to develop a statewide methodology for assessing the benefits and costs of drug courts in the State of California. The aim of this effort is to produce a validated methodology to conduct inexpensive cost-benefit studies on an ongoing basis of drug courts throughout the state. As a part of this effort, a web-based tool was created – the Drug Court Cost Self-Evaluation Tool (DC-CSET) – which drug courts statewide can use to help determine their own costs and benefits. For more information on this study and other drug court studies go to www.npcresearch.com and <http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/courtadmin/aoc/>.

RECIDIVISM RATE

Joshua Tree Drug Court participants had the following recidivism (re-arrest) rates over a two-year period.¹ Re-arrests include any type of arrest (but not including traffic citations).

Figure A: Two-Year Re-Arrest Rate for Joshua Tree Drug Court: Graduates, All Participants and Comparison Group



COSTS AND BENEFITS DUE TO RECIDIVISM

Table A shows the average number of recidivism events (e.g., re-arrests, jail time, prison time) per offender for drug court graduates, all drug court participants (regardless of graduation status) and the comparison group over 2 years after drug court entry.²

¹ Numbers for drug court participants provided by drug court staff. Comparison numbers provided by NPC Research from similar counties in California.

² Numbers for drug court participants provided by drug court staff. Comparison numbers provided by NPC Research from similar counties in California.

Table A: Joshua Tree Drug Court: Average Number of Recidivism Events Two Years After Drug Court Entry per Participant and Comparison Individual

Recidivism Related Events	Drug Court Graduates Per Person (n=39)	Drug Court Participants Per Person (n=50)	Comparison Group Per Person (n=1,685)
Re-Arrests/Bookings	0	0.44	1.83
Court Cases	0.15	0.14	0.76
Jail Bookings*	0.14	0.13	1.69
Jail Days	20.33	200.22	126.11
Probation Days After Exit	12.21	19.72	612.51
Prison Days	12.44	103.50	74.56

Table B provides the average recidivism cost per graduate, per drug court participant and per comparison group member for each type of recidivism event.

Table B: Joshua Tree Drug Court: Criminal Justice System Costs Associated with Recidivism per Participant and Comparison Individual

Recidivism Related Events	Unit Costs	Drug Court Graduates per Person (n = 39)	Drug Court Participants per Person (n=50)	Comparison Group per Person (n=1,685)
Re-Arrests/Bookings	\$261.88	\$0	\$115	\$479
Court Cases	\$2,716.71	\$408	\$380	\$2,065
Jail Bookings	\$136.33	\$19	\$18	\$230
Jail Days	\$68.43	\$1,391	\$13,701	\$8,630
Probation Days After Exit	\$8.62	\$105	\$170	\$5,280
Prison Days	\$97.50	\$1,213	\$10,091	\$7,270
Total		\$3,136	\$24,475	\$23,954

The total cost of outcomes for the Joshua Tree Drug Court program per drug court graduate was \$3,136 and per drug court participants, regardless of graduation status was \$24,475, while the cost per comparison group member was \$23,954. The difference between the drug court and comparison group was -\$521 per participant. This amount represents a loss related to drug court participation. This may be due to several factors including a sentence of a disproportionately large amount of jail/prison time after a participant is terminated or the lack of accurate information entered into the tool, or possibly could be due to an anomaly in your procedures for choosing a drug court participant sample. You might consider taking a different sample of participants, from a different time period, and see if your results are similar.