

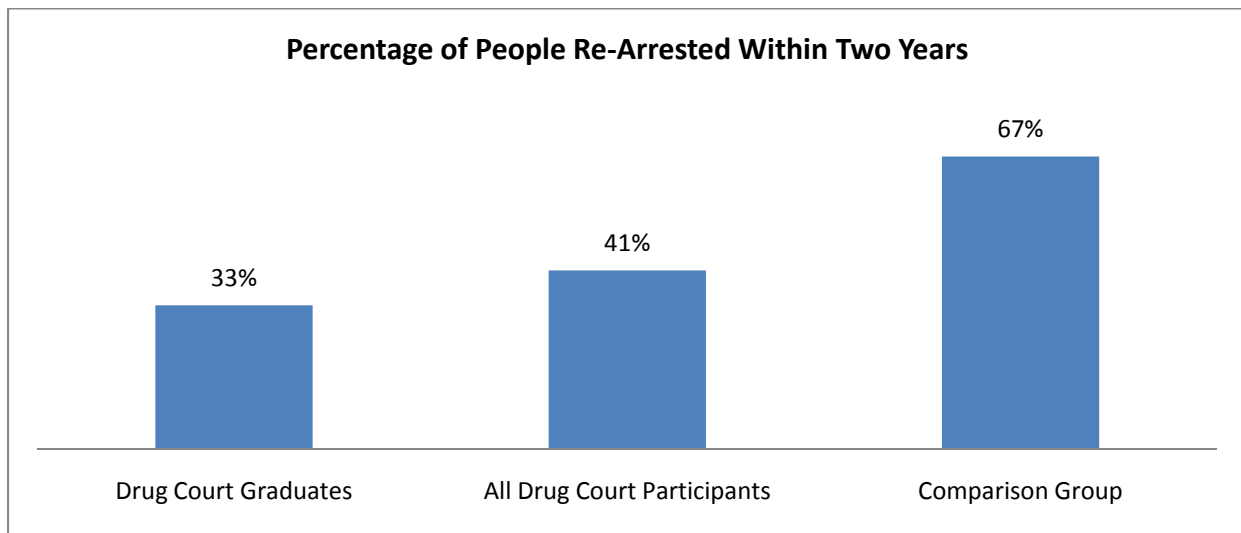
SAN MATEO COUNTY (CALIFORNIA) DRUG COURT - SOUTH COST STUDY FACT SHEET

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 www.courtinfo.ca.gov/courtadmin/aoc.

RECIDIVISM RATE

San Mateo County Drug Court - South 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 San Mateo County Drug Court – South: 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: San Mateo County Drug Court - South: Average Number of Recidivism Events Two Years After Drug Court Entry per Participant and Comparison Individual

Recidivism Events	Drug Court Graduates per Person (n=15)	Drug Court Participants per Person (n=32)	Comparison Group per Person (n=1,685)
Re-Arrests/Bookings	0.33	0.69	1.83
Court Cases	0.13	0.50	0.76
Jail Bookings	0.30	0.63	1.69
Jail Days	5.53	48.75	126.11
Probation Days After Exit	162.93	231.44	612.51
Prison Days	0	98.44	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: San Mateo County Drug Court - South: Criminal Justice System Costs Associated with Recidivism per Participant and Comparison Individual

Recidivism Related Events	Unit Costs	Drug Court Graduates per Person (n = 15)	Drug Court Participants per Person (n=32)	Comparison Group per Person (n=1,685)
Re-Arrests/Bookings	\$406.16	\$134	\$280	\$743
Court Cases	\$3,653.47	\$475	\$1,827	\$2,777
Jail Bookings	\$215.00	\$65	\$135	\$363
Jail Days	\$110.00	\$608	\$5,363	\$13,872
Probation Days After Exit	\$2.45	\$399	\$567	\$1,501
Prison Days	\$97.50	\$0	\$9,598	\$7,270
Total		\$1,681	\$17,770	\$26,526

The total cost of events related to recidivism for the San Mateo County Drug Court - South per drug court graduate was \$1,681 and per drug court participant (regardless of graduation status) was \$17,770, while the cost per comparison group member was \$26,526. The difference between the drug court and comparison group was **\$8,756** per participant. This amount represents the recidivism cost savings due to participation in drug court. If this amount is multiplied by the total number of participants who have entered the program since its inception (approximately 480 offenders) the total amount “saved” by the program due to positive outcomes for its participants (i.e., lower recidivism) is **\$4,203,360**.