Juvenile Recidivism: A 2015 Cohort Analysis

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Table of Contents

Figures and Tables

Introduction

In the fall and winter of 2016, members of the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council's Juvenile Justice Committee (JJC) determined it was important to measure the impact of juvenile justice system interventions through a recidivism study. Members of the JJC's Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative Data Committee worked with CJCC's Statistical Analysis Center (SAC) to develop an initial research plan. This plan was presented to the CJCC Principals on February 16, 2017. After this meeting, the research question became: "Do juvenile justice system interventions succeed in reducing youth risk to public safety?" The purpose of the analysis was to better understand the characteristics of youth with multiple intakes, violations, or unsuccessful case dispositions; identify programming and practices that support successful case disposition; identify challenges, opportunities and/or gaps in current interventions; and eventually measure youth success.

In order to answer this question, the SAC and JDAI Data Committee further refined the question to reflect national standards and local sentiment, seeking to determine new offending by those known to the system.[1] This was defined to include those completing a diversion program, a term of probation, or a term of commitment during calendar year 2015. Reoffending was measured by the occurrence of new arrests, new case filings, and new findings of delinquency or criminal convictions for an offense that occurred in the year following the completion of the intervention.[2]

This baseline analysis is intended to lay the groundwork for future analyses, with hopes to include longer follow-up periods, more detailed information about risk assessments, interventions, education, employment and environment, and youth outcome data to include pro-social measures of success. During the course of conducting this analysis, the CJCC Principals also raised the importance of knowing which programs are most effective in reducing recidivism; and they expressed interest in understanding the outcomes for youth who are dismissed, found not-guilty, and have consent decrees, and understanding better the impact of special education on system involvement. Determining which programs are comparatively most effective will also require additional and more complicated analysis of youth who are sent to one program over another, or are more deeply entrenched in the system. This baseline will serve as a prelude to addressing these additional questions.

The current analysis aims to answer some of these questions, while others must be discussed and prioritized to determine the next steps to best inform the work of our juvenile justice system partners.

The research will examine the following:

- When a youth is arrested for an offense that happened in the first year after he or she finished diversion, probation, or commitment;
- When a youth has a case filed in court for an offense that happened in the first year after he or she finished diversion, probation, or commitment; and
- When a youth is found guilty or delinquent for an offense that happened in the first year after he or she finished diversion, probation, or commitment.

[1] https://www.nij.gov/topics/corrections/recidivism/Pages/welcome.aspx

[2] Selecting 2015 as the cohort year allows time for a one-year follow up to the end of 2016, and some time through 2017 for cases filed for these incidents to be adjudicated. It is important to note that reoffending for this initial analysis includes only offending recorded by the District of Columbia; therefore, if a person in the cohort committed a new offense outside of DC, it is not included for consideration in this study.

Measuring Recidivism

The District of Columbia's interest in recidivism is shared across the country by many jurisdictions, which has been a subject of discussion and research for some time. Best practices are being established at present, and the conversation includes many perspectives. In a 2014 study sponsored by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), and co-authored by the Council for State Governments (CSG), the Pew Charitable Trusts (Pew), and the Council of Juvenile Correctional Administrators (CJCA),[3] recommendations were made around how best to accomplish juvenile recidivism analyses. According to their findings, 39 state-level agencies reported measuring recidivism of juveniles, and their measurements varied from one agency to the next. Their assessment looked at definitions of recidivism, follow up periods, and a presentation of findings. The findings included a recommendation that all jurisdictions take up the study of recidivism, and specifically offered this guidance: measure re-involvement of various types; consider risk and other key youth variables; regularly collect and report this data; make information about findings available broadly; and finally, use this information to inform how the system operates.

Specifically, the findings highlight the importance of jurisdictions including various levels of re-involvement, such as re-arrest, reconviction, and re-incarceration, and to examine adult and juvenile offending. Pew published a related infographic[4] highlighting the differences in measurement across the country, which indicates that follow-up varied from 6 to 36 months. The report notes that in some places only re-arrest is gauged, while in others incarceration is the indicator captured. Some examples cited include Virginia, which measures multiple follow up periods (6, 12, 24, and 36 months), and includes measures of reoffending indicated by re-arrest, adjudication or conviction, and commitment as an adult or juvenile. Alternately, Utah reported measuring re-arrest for 12 months after release. Each jurisdiction that does measure recidivism has its own methodology, and also its own audience; some agencies that are measuring it share their findings with all three branches of government (for example Utah and Nevada), while others limit the extent to which the information is meaningfully shared across branches (for example New York and Arkansas). Further, just 21 of the 29 agencies that reported for the study used more than one of the standard definitions of recidivism.

North Carolina legislatively mandates bi-annual recidivism analyses. Their 2017 publication[5] of a fiscal year (FY) 2013 cohort of youth with a case adjudication outlined a three-year follow-up on new arrests, and compared re-arrest for youth with a case petitioned in 2013 to youth with a case that was not petitioned in 2013. They also presented a comparison of rearrests for youth dismissed compared to youth adjudicated for a case in FY2017. This offers a prospective examination, from the point of a case arriving at the juvenile court, rather than from the completion of a resulting intervention. They also examined youth released from a secure youth facility that year, breaking out success rates by offense history, the offense for which they were committed, and risk level.

Georgia's semi-annual recidivism study is a good point of reference. In their 2011 iteration,[6] their use of the Comprehensive Risk and Needs assessment across all youth populations allowed them to look at youth outcomes broken out not only by intervention (probation, commitment, etc.), but also allows for

[3] https://csgjusticecenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/Measuring-and-Using-Juvenile-Recidivism-Data-to-Inform-Policy-Practice-and-Resource-Allocation.pdf
[4] http://www.pewtrusts.org/en/multimedia/data-visualizations/2014/measuring-juvenile-recidivism
[5] http://www.nccourts.org/Courts/CRS/Councils/spac/Documents/ncspacjuvrecid_2017.pdf
[6] http://www.djj.state.ga.us/ResourceLibrary/_PDFfiles/RecidivismReportFY2011.pdf

subcategories to be compared. For example, their probation outcomes are reported in subgroups of recidivism by risk level. All analyses also include type of recidivism, looking at new status offenses, new misdemeanors, and new felonies. This and other examples exist to guide effective use of analyses and the work of the District of Columbia juvenile justice partners.

Here in the District of Columbia, CJCC and Juvenile Justice Committee efforts are well aligned with the recommendations and examples from around the country. While others' approaches vary, the District of Columbia has begun with the right steps to lay a strong foundation by measuring various definitions of reoffending, as well as different system interventions from which a youth is released. The national scan provides some ideas that lend to follow up steps and new questions to consider to strengthen the information provided to juvenile system partners. These include:

1. How many youth currently involved in the juvenile system were involved before?
2. Do interventions reduce public safety risk? Which interventions, and for which types of youth?
3. Do interventions improve youth outcomes? What do they currently offer, and in what dosage are they most effective? For which youth?
4. Do youth reoffend after they are involved with the system? Which types of involvement, and how can we use other measures of reoffending or of youth success?

DC Adult and Juvenile Arrests, Filings, and Commitments in CY2015

Juvenile Justice during CY2015:

- Juvenile arrests: 3,141
- Cases No-Papered by OAG: 1,279
- Cases Papered by OAG: 1,168
- Delinquency Cases Filed: 1,097
- ACE Diversion Referrals: 441 new referrals, 252 completions
- CSSD Probation Admissions: 444 new admissions, 509 Completions
- DYRS Commitments: 108 new commitments, 209 completions

In Calendar Year (CY) 2015, there were 33,157 arrests of adults and 3,141 juvenile arrests, totaling 36,298 arrests in the District of Columbia.[7] The Office of the Attorney General (OAG), which handles all juvenile delinquency matters, papered 1,168 juvenile delinquency cases for 893 arrests that were associated with Police Department ID (PDID) numbers and 16 for cases involving an unknown PDID number – including interstate compact cases. This translates to at least 894 unique juveniles with a delinquency case that was filed by the OAG in CY2015. There were also 1,279 delinquency cases that were not filed in Court (not papered) by the OAG for 1,030 PDID numbers and 45 for cases involving a juvenile with an unknown PDID number. This translates to at least 1,031 unique juveniles with a case not papered in CY2015.[8] During that

[7] Source: MPD Annual Report
[8] Source: Data elements provided by OAG, both counts include Interstate Compact cases.

year, there were 16,344 cases filed in the Criminal Division of the DC Superior Court and 1,097 delinquency cases filed in the Family Division of the DC Superior Court.[9]

Before and during a youth's involvement in the juvenile justice system, interventions that are available include the Alternatives to the Court Experience (ACE) diversion program operated by the Department of Human Services (DHS), probation overseen by the DC Superior Court's Court Social Services Division, and commitment to the Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services (DYRS). There were 441 referrals to the ACE diversion program from both MPD and OAG,[10] 444 unique youth[11] with a new probation admission for a delinquency case, and 108 delinquent youth committed to DYRS in 2015.[12] In that same year, 252 youth were released from ACE, 509 youth were released from probation, and 209 youth were released from a term of commitment with DYRS.[13]

To examine the research question, analysis was conducted on new offending for youth completing the three main types of interventions—ACE, probation and commitment. New offending was indicated by an arrest, a new filing of a delinquency or criminal case, or a new finding of delinquency or criminal conviction.[14] And all were measured with incident dates in the 12 months following the individual's completion of said intervention.

DHS – ACE Diversion (CY2015 Completion Cohort N=252)

The ACE diversion program is operated by the Department of Human Services (DHS).[15] Youth may be referred by the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) prior to an arrest, or post arrest by the OAG. According to the DHS description of the program, "under appropriate circumstances, the government elects not to prosecute youth who commit status offenses… and/or low-level delinquency offenses." Program interventions include both youth and their families, and offer varied services determined by individual needs. Throughout this analysis, attention will be paid to "completions." With respect to the ACE intervention, completion means they participated to the expected level for services that were deemed appropriate and were not terminated due to a new offense or a failure to sustain participation.[16]

A total of 252 unique youth were discharged from ACE in 2015 (147 had initially been referred by MPD and 105 by OAG), and their juvenile and adult reoffending was measured for offenses that occurred in the

[9] Source: DC Superior Court Annual Report, Family Division Annual Report

[10] Source: Data elements provided by the Department of Human Services

[11] There were 444 unique youth admitted to probation for a total of 584 delinquency cases, and 63 unique youth admitted to probation for a total of 65 "Persons in Needs of Supervision" (PINS) cases – meaning that some youth had multiple probation admissions during that year.

[12] Source: Data elements provided by Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services (DYRS); does not include 6 persons who were committed under PINS.

[13] This does not include 6 persons released from DYRS who were committed under PINS.

[14] There are differences across partners in preference for how to measure or indicate new offending, and those differences are supported by national and local conversations and methodologies. Some indicate that a new arrest indicates system involvement and not necessarily reoffending, while others feel it is important to gauge this point of system contact as an indicator of new offending. Arrest can involve many factors that can lead to a youth having contact with the system, for which petitioning and/or adjudication does not always follow. For this analysis, new offending includes all three indicators to satisfy partner interests in this measurement —new arrests, new filings, and new convictions—so that all partners' questions and concerns around new offending are addressed.

[15] Detail of the program is provided on the DHS website: https://dhs.dc.gov/page/alternatives-court-experience-ace-diversion-program

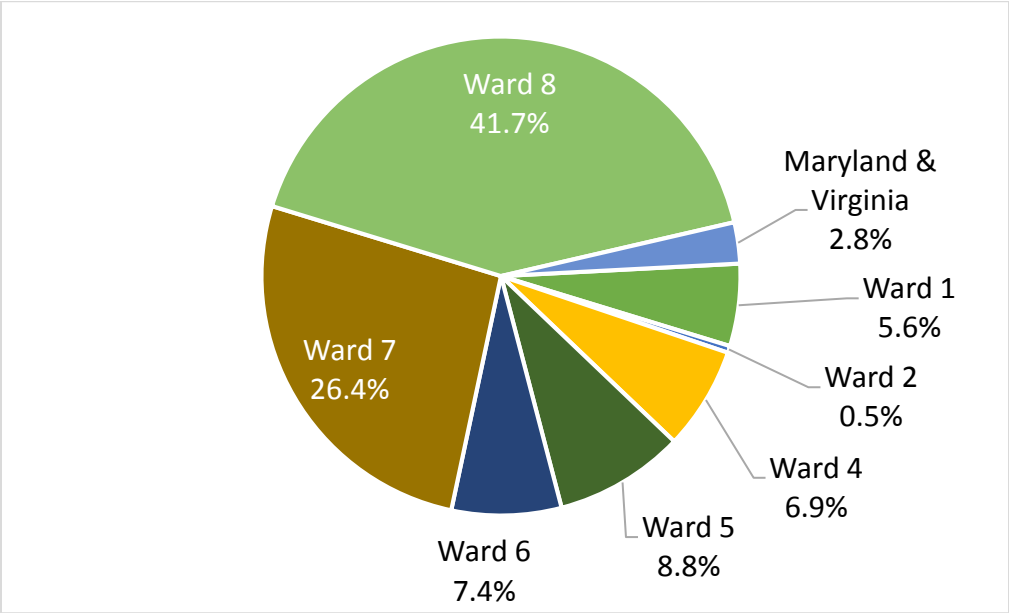
[16] If a youth in the program has a new arrest, OAG makes a determination as to whether a youth should continue their involvement in ACE, or instead be prosecuted for the new offense.

12 months following their individual ACE end dates. The filing, adjudication, or disposition may have occurred subsequent to the 12 months, but the offense date that was captured occurred within the 12 months following completion. It is important to note that CY2015 was the first full year of ACE.

While 252 youth were discharged from ACE in 2015, a subgroup of 216 completed ACE without being removed from the program due to new legal involvement and without being terminated due to a failure to sustain participation. Twenty-five youth were removed due to justice system involvement while in the program,[17] and 11 youth were terminated in 2015 for failure to participate.

Of the 216 persons who completed ACE without incident, 60.2% were male, and the average age at that completion was 15.2 years old, with a median age of 15.1 years old. Their home addresses were reported, and showed a large representation from Wards 7 and 8 (see Figure 1).

Figure 1 Percent of Completion of ACE CY2015 by Residence Reported (n=216)



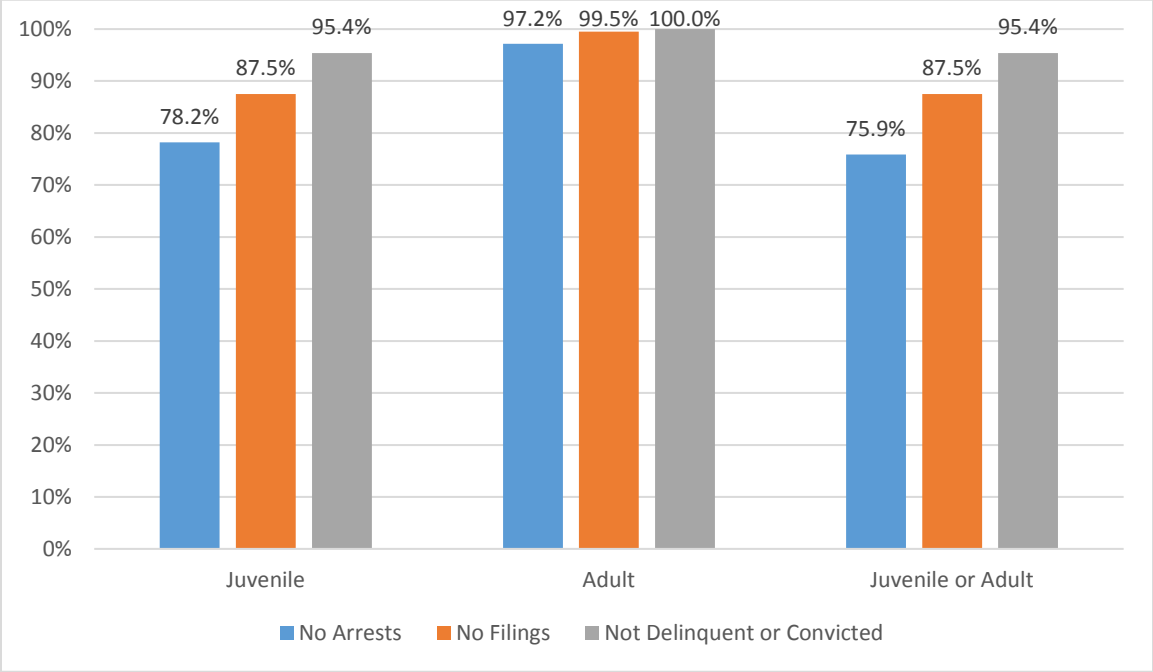
Those who completed the intervention were referred to the program on various offenses, where 38% were referred for a simple assault, 31% for a property offense, and the remainder for various other offenses – mostly lower level offenses, including second degree theft (14.8%), fare evasion (8.3%), and disorderly conduct (8.3%). There were a handful of youth referred on more serious matters including burglary (2 persons), and possession of a prohibited weapon, assault with a deadly weapon, and assault with intent to commit any other offense (1 person for each of these offenses). Consistent with the intent of the program, the majority of persons referred to ACE had been referred there for a low-level offense. And while their criminal history was not available for this analysis, ACE has been described as a program for those who have not been deeply involved in the juvenile system at the point of referral.

Of those 216 persons who completed the ACE program without new legal involvement or a failure to participate in 2015 (see Figure 2), 75.9% did not have a new arrest for an offense that occurred in the year following their completion, 87.5% did not have a case filed for an offense that occurred in the year

[17] Measures of reoffending in this analysis cannot consistently be delineated because there are no linked arrest numbers or filings to associate. The analysis showed that 21 had a new arrest in the first 12 months after completion, though it is unclear whether these are the same offenses that removed them from the program.

following their completion, and 95.4% did not have a new conviction or a new finding of delinquency for any offense that occurred in the year following ACE completion.[18]

Figure 2 Reoffending for Youth Who Completed ACE in CY2015 (n=216)



Re-offense Types

There were 52 people who were arrested (24.1%), as a juvenile or an adult, for an offense in the year following the completion of ACE. Half of those arrested had an offense that involved violence, though a large portion of the 29 arrested for a violent offense were arrested for simple assault (17 of 29), leading simple assault to be the single largest category of offense for which persons had an arrest in the first year after completing ACE. Also of note, 13 of those 17 youth arrested for simple assault were female (Table 1).

A similar pattern is seen for offense types for those who had a new case filed for an offense that occurred in the year after ACE completion. And as with arrests, 5 of the simple assaults that resulted in a case being filed were of females.

[18] A full table of rearrest, new filings, and new convictions can be found in Appendix B.

Table 1 Type of Offense for which Youth Were Arrested, Filed, or Delinquent/Convicted in the Year Following ACE Completion

	Arrested	New Filing	Delinquency/Conviction
Drug	3 (5.8%)	0	0
Other	7 (13.5%)	1 (3.7%)	1 (10%)
Property	6 (11.5%)	8 (29.6%)	4 (40%)
Simple Assault	17 (32.7%)	7 (25.9%)	0
Other Violent Offenses	12 (23.1%)	9 (33.3%)	4 (40%)
Weapon	4 (7.7%)	2 (7.4%)	1 (10%)
Total	52 (100%)	27 (100%)	10 (100%)

While females made up 40% of the cohort, they accounted for a majority of simple assaults that resulted in an arrest and of the simple assaults that resulted in a new case being filed.

Time to New Offense

Time from release to failure is an important concept. The longer one stays away from system involvement, the fewer offenses he or she commits overall. This is widely used in the field[19] as a measure of relative success, as a person who takes longer to reoffend is perceived as someone who may at least be attempting to succeed. It allows partners to understand the time-frame in which resources could be focused to reduce reoffending as well.

Time to failure for those arrested (n=52), those with a new filing (n=27), and those with a new finding of delinquency or conviction (n=10) for an offense that occurred in the year following ACE completion ranged from an average of 4.7 months to offense for those arrested, 5.3 months for those with a new filing, and 6 months for those who had a new conviction or adjudication of delinquency (Table 2).

Table 2 Time to Failure

	Mean	Median	Range in Days
Time to first offense for those arrested (n=52)	144.8 days (4.7 months)	145 days (4.7 months)	2 to 354 days
Time to first offense for those with a filing (n=27)	161.1 days (5.3 months)	156 days (5.1 months)	24 to 318 days
Time to first offense for those convicted or found delinquent (n=10)	183.5 days (6 months)	206 days (6.8 months)	29 to 318 days

It is important to note that this is the time to when the offense occurred, not the time to arrest, filing, or adjudication.[20] This means, for example, that for those who were convicted or found delinquent for a new offense that occurred in the first year after completion, the offense for which they were convicted occurred on average 6 months after completing the ACE.

[19] For an example see Georgia: http://www.djj.state.ga.us/ResourceLibrary/_PDFfiles/RecidivismReportFY2011.pdf

[20] Because the research question is around new offending for an offense in the year following intervention, measuring time to failure means measuring time to new offending, not time to system response to that offense. This also reiterates the point that we are calling a new arrest proof of "new offending" having occurred, and so forth.

Outcomes by Age, Gender, Home Ward, Referral Source

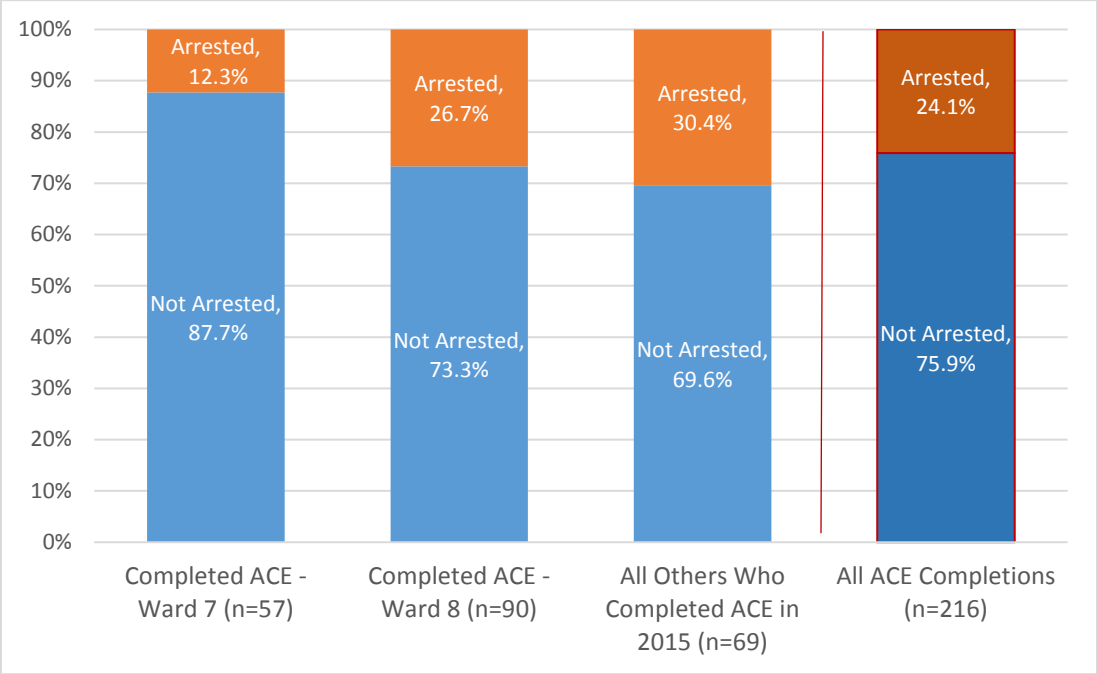
Age was not a significant factor with respect to whether youth who completed ACE were rearrested or had a new filing or conviction. Those rearrested in the first year were on average 15.8 years old, and those who were not arrested were 15.5 years old when they completed ACE. The same can be said for those with a new filing – those who did not have a new filing against them were on average 15.7 years old and those who did have a new filing were on average 15.3 years old and the difference in these means was not significant. Finally there were no significant differences in average age of those who had a new conviction and those who did not for an offense in the first year following ACE. Bearing in mind the small number of adjudicated youth (n=10), the average age of those with a new conviction was 15.7 years old and for those without a new conviction was 15.4 years old. This indicates overall, on the surface at least, that age at completion of ACE was not related to new offending when measured using any of the three indicators here.

There was also no notable difference by gender for recidivism. Males were no more or less likely than females to be rearrested for an offense in the year following ACE, nor were they more or less likely to have a case filed for an offense in the year following ACE. While males were more likely to be convicted or found delinquent for an offense in the year following ACE, the number was very low (9 of the 10 youth with a new conviction or finding of delinquency were male) and does not yield a conclusive finding.

Of the 216 persons who completed ACE, 147 (68%) were from Wards 7 and 8.[21] Analysis shows that those from Wards 7 and 8 were significantly less likely (p=.04 in a Chi-Square test) than participants from other Wards, Maryland, and Virginia to be rearrested for an offense in the first year following completion of ACE (Figure 3). However, they had no difference in likelihood of new filings or of new findings of delinquency or criminal convictions compared to diverted youth from other parts of the city.

[21] Each of the other Wards and states (VA and MD) had 12 or fewer participants, and analyzing them as a singular group makes for a more robust analytical finding.

Figure 3 ACE Completions: New Arrest in the First Year by Residence CY 2015(N=216)



The results revealed no difference based on referral source, even though they are referred at different points in the process. Both MPD-referred and OAG-referred youth were similar in rearrests (23.1% and 25.6% respectively), in new filings (14.2% and 9.8% respectively), and in new findings of delinquency or new convictions (3.7% and 6.1% respectively). The differences were not statistically significant.[22]

Comparison of Those Who Completed to Others Who Were Terminated for New Legal Involvement or a Failure to Participate

It is important to consider more broadly what factors increase the likelihood of completing a program that apparently has a low re-offending rate, though this analysis does not include controls for any justice, social, or environmental factors. With that in mind, we examined some of the basic characteristics of those who finished ACE and those who were terminated because they became re-involved with the justice system or failed to participate. At the start of the program, the age of those who completed and those who did not was quite similar – 15.0 years old for those who were terminated from prior to completion of the program (n=36) versus 15.2 years old for those who were not terminated (n=216).

Other considerations included where one lived and one's gender. Analysis does not indicate that home Ward increased or decreased likelihood of completion of ACE. The same can be said of gender – 40% of those participating in the diversion and completing in 2015 were female, while 33.3% of those completing were female.

[22] Chi-square tests were performed in these comparisons and no findings were significant.

CSSD – Probation Completers (CY2015 Completion Cohort N=509)

The Family Court Social Services Division (CSSD) is the District's juvenile probation agency, responsible for screening, serving and supervising all youth involved in the front-end of the juvenile system, including newly arrested youth as well as youth disposed to a term of probation for delinquency matters. Probation is on the continuum of juvenile justice response beyond diversion, though it is still considered a shallower point in the system than commitment to DYRS.[23] There were 509 persons who were released from a term of probation for a delinquency matter in calendar year 2015. During that time the completion types included three main categories: 4 who were administratively closed (these are considered neither a success nor a failure), 381 successful completions, and 121 unsuccessful completions.[24]

Of the 381 successful completions, 73.2% were male and on average 16.7 years old at the time they completed probation. Among those who successfully completed, 308 were considered 'successful' and 73 'marginally successful.' Their average risk score at completion was 15, which is at the top of the range CSSD considers medium risk, while those who failed probation had an average score of 18.6 at the end of supervision, which is in the range CSSD considers high risk; and of those 381 who were successful, 26.9% were low risk, 32.7% were medium risk, and 40.4% were high risk.[25]

Sixty percent of those who successfully completed probation in 2015 were not rearrested, and 79% did not have a new filing for an offense in that first year (Figure 4). Finally, 90% did not have a new finding of delinquency or a criminal conviction for an offense that occurred in the year after they completed probation.[26]

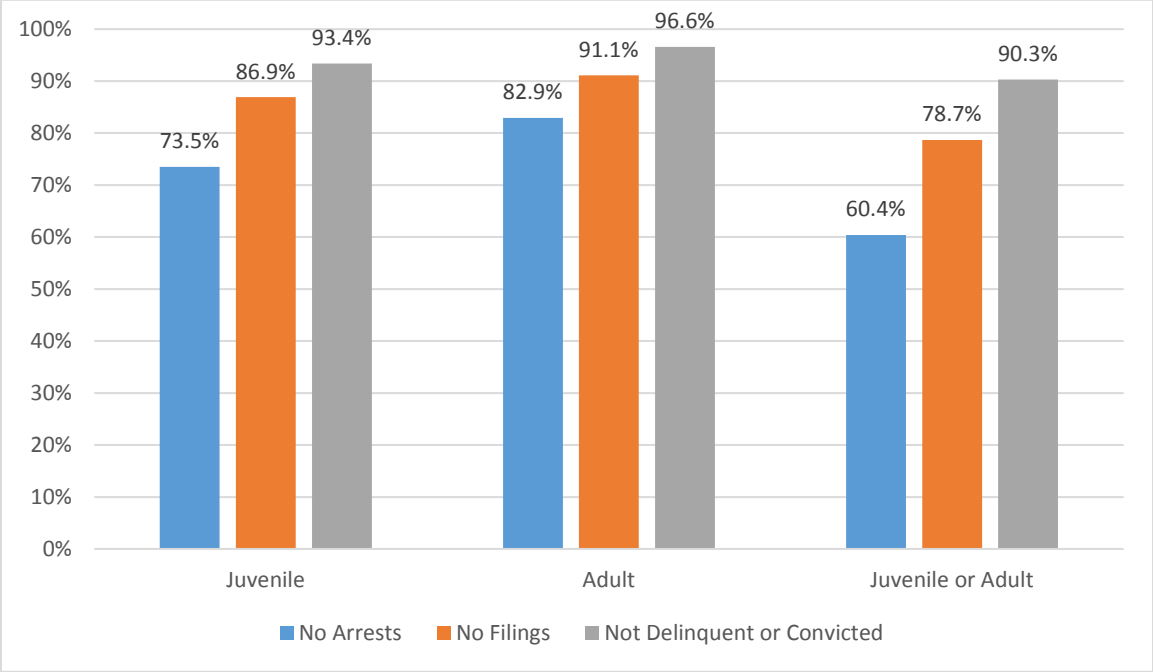
[23] https://www.dccourts.gov/services/juvenile-matters

[24] There were an additional 3 cases in which completion status was unavailable, bringing the total to 509.

[25] At present, the CSSD is working to revalidate the Risk Assessment Instrument (RAI). The RAI tool is utilized to guide decision-making for youth at various stages of system involvement, to include: release and detention when court is not in session, recommendations for petitioning, and probation disposition. The RAI tool informs Risk Range Classification (RRC), which in tandem with a review of social, mitigating and aggregating factors enables consideration for balancing the needs of the youth and potential for reoffending, thereby resulting in recommendations for each youth throughout system involvement. The score utilized in the current analysis was that score closest to the probation completion date and does not reflect all elements considered when determining the risk a youth poses to public safety at the point he or she is released from probation.

[26] A full table of rearrest, new filings, and new convictions can be found in Appendix B.

Figure 4 Reoffending for Youth Who Completed CSSD Probation in CY2015 Successfully (n=381)



Re-offense types

A large segment of youth rearrested in the first year were arrested for a violent offense. It is important to note, 29 of 66 arrests for violent offenses were for simple assault (Table 3). As with those re-offending following ACE completions, females committed a noteworthy number of simple assaults (15 of the 29). Bear in mind, females make up just one in four of the successful probation completions. Females also accounted for 6 of the 14 new filings for a simple assault, and 1 of the 4 new findings of delinquency. The same can be said for new filings where 14 of the 37 filed violent offenses were simple assaults, and 6 of the 14 simple assaults were filed for females.

Violent offenses make up a large portion of those cases adjudicated delinquent or convicted for the probation cohort as well, though 4 of the 17 violent offenses were for a simple assault.

Table 3 Type of Offense for Persons Who Were Arrested, Filed, or Delinquent/Convicted in the Year Following Successful Completion of CSSD Probation[27]

	Arrested	New Filing	Delinquency/Conviction
Drug	9 (6.0%)	2 (2.5%)	1 (2.7%)
Other	27(17.9%)	14 (17.3%)	5 (13.5%)
Property	34 (22.5%)	20 (24.7%)	11 (29.7%)
Simple Assault	2919.2%)	14 (17.4%)	4 (10.8%)
Violent	37 (24.5%)	23 (28.4%)	13 (35.1%)
Weapon	13 (8.6%)	7 (8.6%)	3 (8.1%)
Total	151 (100%)	81 (100%)	37 (100%)

Time to New Offense

Time to failure for those arrested (n=151), those with a new filing (n=81), and those with a new finding of delinquency or conviction (n=37) for an offense that occurred in the year following successful completion of CSSD probation was more consistent across types of failure than was found in the other intervention cohorts (Table 4).

Table 4 Time to Failure

	Mean	Median	Range in Days
Time to first offense for those arrested (n=151)	120.7 (4 months)	88 (2.9 months)	0 to 358 days
Time to first offense for those with a filing (n=81)	166.4 (5.5 months)	157 (5.2 months)	1 to 358 days
Time to first offense for those convicted or found delinquent (n=37)	138.2 (4.5 months)	122 (4 months)	1 to 347 days

This reflects how long until the offense occurred, not the time to arrest, filing, or adjudication. This means, for example, that for those who were convicted or found delinquent of a new offense that occurred in the first year after completion, the offense for which they were convicted occurred on average 4.5 months after successfully completing CSSD probation. Overall, this shows that if a youth recidivated, reoffending occurred about 5 months after probation completion.

Outcome by Success Level, Probation Length of Stay, and Risk Score

The analyses indicated differences between those who were "successful" on probation versus those who were "marginally successful." Those who were marginally successful on probation were significantly more likely to be rearrested for an offense in the first year after completing probation (p=.001) than those who were deemed successful. The likelihood of having a new filing for an offense that occurred in the first year after probation completion was also significantly greater for those who were marginally successful

[27] *Arrest: Offense types: 'Other' includes: disorderly, gambling, other crime, release violations, traffic, 'Property' includes: burglary, damage, MV theft, property crimes, theft, theft from auto; 'Violent' includes: aggravated assault, assault on a police officer, assault with a dangerous weapon, homicide, robbery, sex assault. Filing: Offense types: 'Other' includes: disorderly, other crimes, release violations, traffic; 'Property' includes: burglary, damage, MV theft, property crimes, theft, theft from auto; 'Violent' includes: aggravated assault, assault on a police officer, assault with a dangerous weapon, homicide, robbery, sex assault. Delinquency/Conviction: Offense types: 'Other' includes: other crimes, release violations, traffic; 'Property' includes: burglary, MV theft, property crime, theft, theft from auto; 'Violent' includes: assault on a police officer, assault with a dangerous weapon, homicide, robbery, sex assault.*

compared to those who were successful (p=.007). However, those marginally successful were just as likely as those successful to have had a new conviction or finding of delinquency for an offense that occurred in the first year – there was no notable or significant difference.

Probation term length did not have an impact on the likelihood of success. Those who were rearrested, for example, had an average term of 211 days (6.9 months), while those who were not rearrested had an average term of 201 days (6.6 months). The same small differences were seen for those with a new filing and those with a new finding of delinquency or criminal conviction.

Finally, in a simple comparison of those who reoffended and those who did not, there was no impact of risk level on the likelihood of reoffending in the first year. Rearrest, new filing, or new finding of delinquency or conviction was no more or less likely for low, medium, or high risk youth. The risk tool currently used by CSSD generates a score that does not stand alone in informing CSSD about risk to reoffend, so this score alone would not be a good predictor of new offenses after probation completion.

Outcomes by Age and Gender

There were no notable or significant differences in the age of those who were rearrested or not, of those who had a new filing or not, or of those who had a new conviction or finding of delinquency or not. Both those reoffending and those not reoffending were consistently no more than a month different in average age.

Females were significantly less likely to be arrested (p=.009), to have a new filing (p=.009), or to have a new conviction or finding of delinquency (p=.001) than were males for an offense that occurred in the first year after successful probation completion (Table 5). And while this study, as noted, does not include controls for any other factors, this indicates the importance of further research to dig deeper into findings such as this.

Table 5 Outcomes by Gender

	Females (n=102)	**Males (n=279)**
Rearrested	29.4%	43.4%
New Filing	12.7%	24.4%
Delinquency Adjudication or Criminal Conviction	3.9%	11.8%

Comparison of Those Who Completed Successfully to Others Who Were Not Successful

While it is important to consider what factors increase the likelihood of completing probation as an intervention, this was not the intention of the analyses presented here. The current study did not allow for controlling of any justice, social, or environmental factors, but does indicate that females were more likely to complete successfully – 82.9% of females completed successfully, while 73.6% of males did. There was also a significant difference for risk score. The average risk score was significantly higher for youth who did not complete probation successfully than for youth who did complete successfully (p.002).[28]

[28] While it is important to consider in broader questions of intervention impact the score these same youth had at the outset to see if that difference still holds, the score included here is the one from the point of probation completion.

On the other hand, there were no significant differences in the age of participants who successfully completed CSSD probation (16.7) and those who did not (16.9). Those who did not complete probation successfully, whether committed or terminated from the program, ranged in age from 13.2 to 21 years old. Similarly, those who completed ranged in age from 11.8 to 20.2 years old. This demonstrates little difference in the ages of those who complete successfully or unsuccessfully.

DYRS – Commitment (CY2015 Completion Cohort N=215)

There were 209 persons who completed a commitment for delinquency with DYRS in 2015. There were three types of completions for this cohort: 155 completed their commitment[29]; 14 absconded and were still in that status at the end of the commitment; and 40 were sent to or already in a secure facility at the end of the commitment, so their completion was more a change in status rather than a physical release from custody.

The 155 successful completions were 78.7% male, had an average age of 18.8 when their commitment ended, and a median age of 19.0 years old at that time. The DYRS uses a Structured Decision Making (SDM) tool,[30] and reported SDM scores for those who completed DYRS commitment. The SDM includes two main elements – the severity of the instant offense and the risk score, and both are used in a matrix in determining placement when a youth is committed to DYRS. As the risk score is embedded in the SDM, the risk score is useful for considering the potential for the youth to reoffend (Table 6).[31] For the 155 successful completions, their risk scores indicated:

Table 6 Risk of Those Completing Commitment (n=155)

Risk Level	Number	Percent of Total
Unknown	3	1.9
High	42	27.1
High or Medium	19	12.3
Medium	39	25.2
Medium or Low	16	10.3
Low	36	23.2
Total	155	100%

Those 155 persons who completed and were released to the community were initially committed to DYRS for various offenses. A third of these commitments were for a violent felony, but there were also 22% of these commitments that were due to a misdemeanor property offense, and 21% for a violent misdemeanor (for this cohort, the only offense in this category was simple assault, though others are generally included).[32]

Youth committed to DYRS were rearrested at a higher rate than those completing other interventions (Figure 5). Fifty-two percent (83 youth) were rearrested, either as a juvenile or as an adult, for an offense that was committed in the year following release from DYRS commitment.[33]

[29] Some were physically released to the community at this point, and others were already in a community placement and were no longer committed at this point.

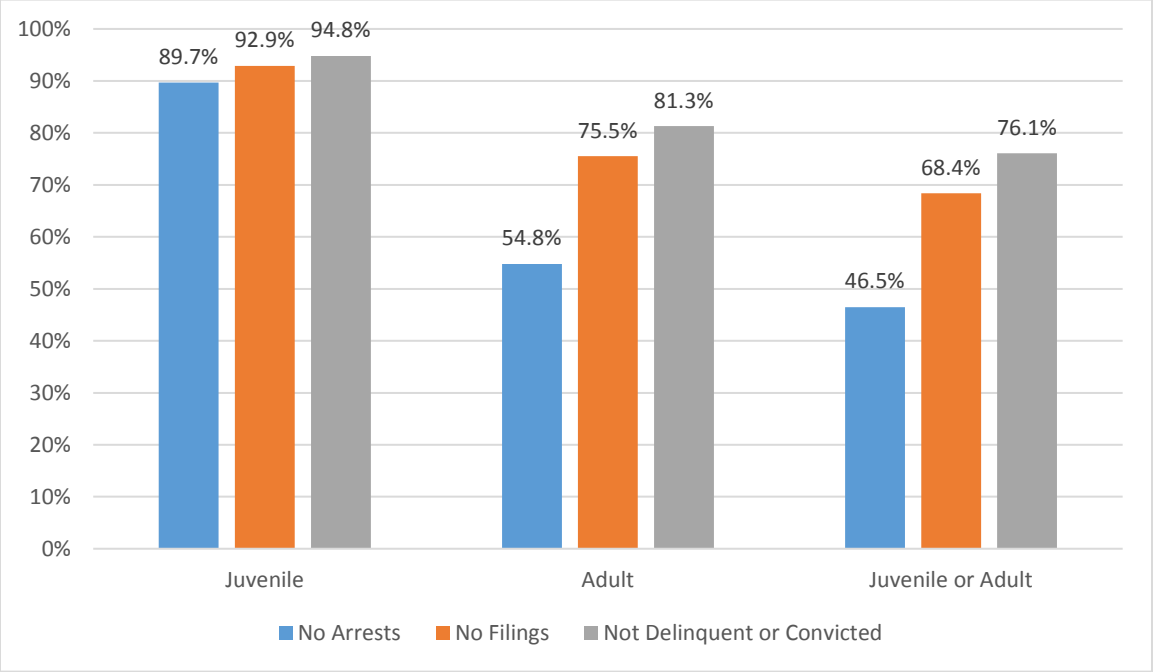
[30] The SDM is used by DYRS to examine risk to public safety and severity of current offense to determine placement when a youth is committed to the Agency.

[31] The score indicates risk to commit a new offense immediately after commitment, and more specifically in the first committed placement. It is a measure of near-term risk to public safety.

[32] Of the 155 successful completions, 21% were initially committed for a violent misdemeanor, 35% for a violent felony, 6% for felony or misdemeanor threats, 22% for misdemeanor property offenses, 3% for felony property offenses, 3% for felony and misdemeanor drug offenses, and 10% for weapon offenses. These categorizations are those created and coded by DYRS.

[33] A full table of rearrest, new filings, and new convictions can be found in Appendix B.

Figure 5 Reoffending for Youth Who Completed a DYRS Commitment in CY2015 and Were Not Released Due to Abscondence (n=155)



Re-offense types

The youth were most often arrested in the first year following the end of DYRS commitment for violent offenses, even after separating simple assaults from other violent offenses (Table 7). Also of note are the 18 arrests for 'other' offenses, including disorder, gambling, release violations, and traffic. Similar to those rearrested, the most common offenses for which there was a new case filed following DYRS commitment completion were violent offenses, though property and 'other' offenses are near to the same proportion of new filings. And for those 37 youth who had a new finding of delinquency or new criminal conviction for an offense in the first year after release, the most common offenses were 'other' and property offenses.

Table 7 Youth Who Were Arrested, Filed, or Delinquent/Convicted for an Offense that Occurred in the Year Following DYRS Commitment Completion[34]

	Arrested	New Filing	Delinquency/Conviction
Drug	10 (12.1%)	3 (6.1%)	1 (2.7%)
Other	18 (21.7%)	10 (20.4%)	10 (27.0%)
Property	14 (16.9%)	11 (22.4%)	9 (24.3%)
Simple Assault	13 (15.7%)	7 (14.3%)	5 (13.5%)
Other Violent Offenses	19 (22.9%)	12 (24.5%)	8 (21.6%)
Weapon	9 (10.8%)	6 (12.3%)	4 (10.8%)
Total	83 (100%)	49 (100%)	37 (100%)

[34] *Offense types: 'Other' includes: disorderly, fugitive, gambling, other, traffic; 'Property' includes: damage, destruction MV theft, property, theft, theft from auto; 'Violent' includes: assault with a dangerous weapon, aggravated assault, assault on a police officer.*

Time to New Offense

Time to failure for those arrested (n=83), those with a new filing (n=49), and those with a new finding of delinquency or conviction (n=37) for an offense that occurred in the year following completion of DYRS commitment showed that those who were rearrested committed a new offense approximately 4 months after release (Table 8). A new filing was for those offenses that happened 3.5 months after release. And a new criminal conviction or a finding of delinquency was for offenses occurring 2.6 months after DYRS commitment completion.

Table 8 Time to Failure

	Mean	Median	Range in Days
Time to first offense for those arrested (n=83)	124.3 days (4.1 months)	98 days (3.2 months)	1 to 365 days
Time to first offense for those with a filing (n=49)	106.8 days (3.5 months)	84 days (2.8 months)	1 to 352 days
Time to first offense for those convicted or found delinquent (n=37)	80.1 days (2.6 months)	73 days (2.4 months)	1 to 327 days

This shows the time from release to when the offense occurred, not the time to arrest, filing or adjudication. This means, for example, that for those who were convicted or found delinquent of a new offense that occurred in the first year after completion, the offense for which they were convicted occurred on average 2.6 months after completing a DYRS commitment. This is notably shorter than the time to failure for those completing ACE and for those completing Probation, and perhaps speaks to the offending patterns leading up to interventions at earlier points in the system compared to that leading up to DYRS commitment, the latter likely having a longer history of justice system involvement.

Outcome by SDM Score, Final Placement Type, and Commitment LOS

Structured Decision Making (SDM) tool risk score is reported in the data as high, high or medium, medium, medium or low, and low. In order to look at this in a meaningful way, the analyses examined this as three groups of low, medium, and high (Table 9).[35]

Table 9 Outcome by SDM Risk Score

	No Involvement	Arrested	New Filing	Delinquent or Guilty
Low (n=36)	23 (63.9%)	13 (36.1%)	10 (27.8%)	9 (25%)
Medium (n=58)	21 (36.2%)	37 (63.8%)	20 (34.5%)	15 (25.9%)
High (n=61)	28 (45.9%)	33 (54.1%)	19 (31.1%)	13 (21.3%)
Total (n=155)	72 (46.4%)	83 (53.5%)	49 (31.6%)	37 (23.9%)

When comparing those with a Low SDM risk score to all others, they were then significantly less likely to be rearrested (p=.032). This, however, was not the case for new filings or new findings of delinquency or guilt. This means that those with a low SDM risk score were significantly less likely to be rearrested for an offense in the first year compared to other SDM risk score categories, but there were no other notable differences.

[35] Categories for High includes "high" and "high or medium," for medium includes "medium," "medium or low," and those with missing scores (3), and for low includes only "low."

Across the various potential placement types that a juvenile may have experienced during commitment to DYRS, only the final placement is considered here. Analysis was conducted using broad categories of: home, residential placement, and secure placement; each category included various programs and options.[36]

For those youth who completed their commitment and were released (n=155), final placement type showed some minor differences in outcomes, though not significant (Table 10). While youth placed in secure appeared to have been at higher risk for reoffending, this is based on a group of 10 persons. More notable were the similarities in outcomes for youth who were in home versus residential placements at the end of their commitments, though youth at home had a slightly higher rate of rearrest, of new filings, and of convictions or findings of delinquency. This may also be a result of the lower number of youth that were in a residential placement.

Table 10 Outcome by Final Placement

	Arrested	New Filing	Delinquent or Guilty
Home (n=124)	65 (52.4%)	41 (33.1%)	31 (25%)
Residential (n=21)	11 (52.4%)	5 (23.8%)	4 (19%)
Secure (n=10)	7 (70%)	3 (30%)	2 (20%)
Total (n=155)	83 (53.5%)	49 (31.6%)	37 (23.9%)

The length of a young person's commitment also showed differences in success after commitment completion. While commitment length was longer for those rearrested, for those with a new filing, and for those with a new conviction or delinquency finding, none of the differences rose to the level of statistical significance. It is still important to note that those who were rearrested, had a new filing, or were found guilty or delinquent had an average commitment length that was around one month longer than those without a new failure, meaning that youth who reoffended in the first year in this cohort had spent more time committed.

Table 11 Outcome by Length of Commitment

	LOS in Days	Difference
LOS for those NOT rearrested (n=72)	878.1	47 days
LOS for those rearrested (n=83)	924.9	
LOS for those with NO new filing (n=106)	892.0	35 days
LOS for those with new filing (n=49)	927.2	
LOS for those with NO new conviction or delinquency (n=118)	890.6	53 days
LOS for those with new conviction or delinquency (n=37)	943.2	

Outcomes by Age and Gender

There were no significant differences in age for those rearrested and those not rearrested, for those with a new filing and without a new filing, and for those with a new conviction or delinquency and those without. The average age for the entire cohort completing DYRS commitment was 18.8 years old, ranging from 14 years old to 21.[37] Those with new arrests were on average 18.8 years old when commitment was

[36] Categories for final placement: 'Home' includes only those coded as home or as college; 'Residential' includes foster care, group home, Independent Living, Job Corps, Motherhood, shelter, therapeutic family home, and the youth shelter home; 'Secure' includes jail, NBYDC, residential treatment center, Substance Abuse Inpatient Program, and YSC.

[37] The lower bound of 14 years old is exceptional, where 3 of the 155 youth were under 16 when completing this commitment, and 14 of the 155 youth were under 17 at the time they completed commitment.

complete, and those without a new arrest were on average 18.7 years old. Those who had a new filing were 18.6 years old at the end of their commitment while those without a new filing were 18.9 years old. And those with a new conviction or delinquency were on average 18.6 years old at the end of commitment, compared to 18.8 years old average for those not reconvicted or found delinquent.

Alternatively, gender had a significant impact. Males were more likely to be rearrested (p=.003), have a new filing (p=.022), and be convicted or adjudicated delinquent (p=.007) for an offense that occurred in the year after DYRS commitment completion.

Table 12 Outcome by Gender

	Females (n=33)	**Males (n=122)**
Rearrested	30.3%	59.8%
New Filing	15.2%	36.1%
Delinquency Adjudication or Criminal Conviction	6.1%	28.7%

Comparison of Those Who Completed Successfully to Others Who Absconded

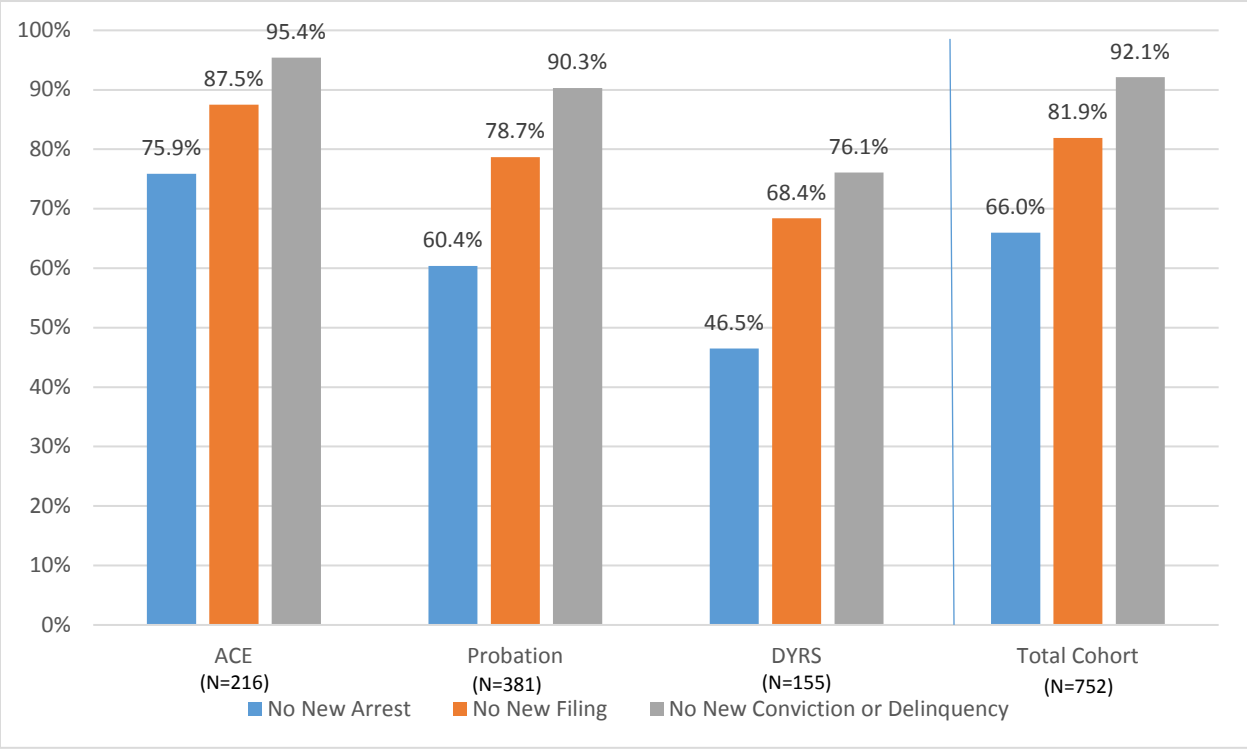
For the cohort who completed a DYRS commitment in 2015, there were, as noted, three types of completion: those who were released, those who were maintained after that commitment in a secure setting, and those who absconded. And while this analysis does not parse out different factors to control for, it is worth noting that there were only small differences in whether one completed commitment or absconded.

Absconders ranged in age from 16 to 21, and on average were 19.3 years old at the time they absconded. Those who were in detention or jail at the time their commitment was completed ranged in age from 15.6 to 21 years old, averaging 19.3 years old at the time that commitment ended. And finally, those who completed commitment and were released ranged in age from 14 to 21 years old and averaged 18.8 years old at that completion. This demonstrates little difference in the ages of those who finish their terms in the three statuses. And while females made up 21.3% of those who completed a DYRS commitment in 2015, there were notable gender differences in status at the end of commitment. All of those who absconded were male, and all 40 persons who were in a facility at the end of their commitment were male.

Overall Findings

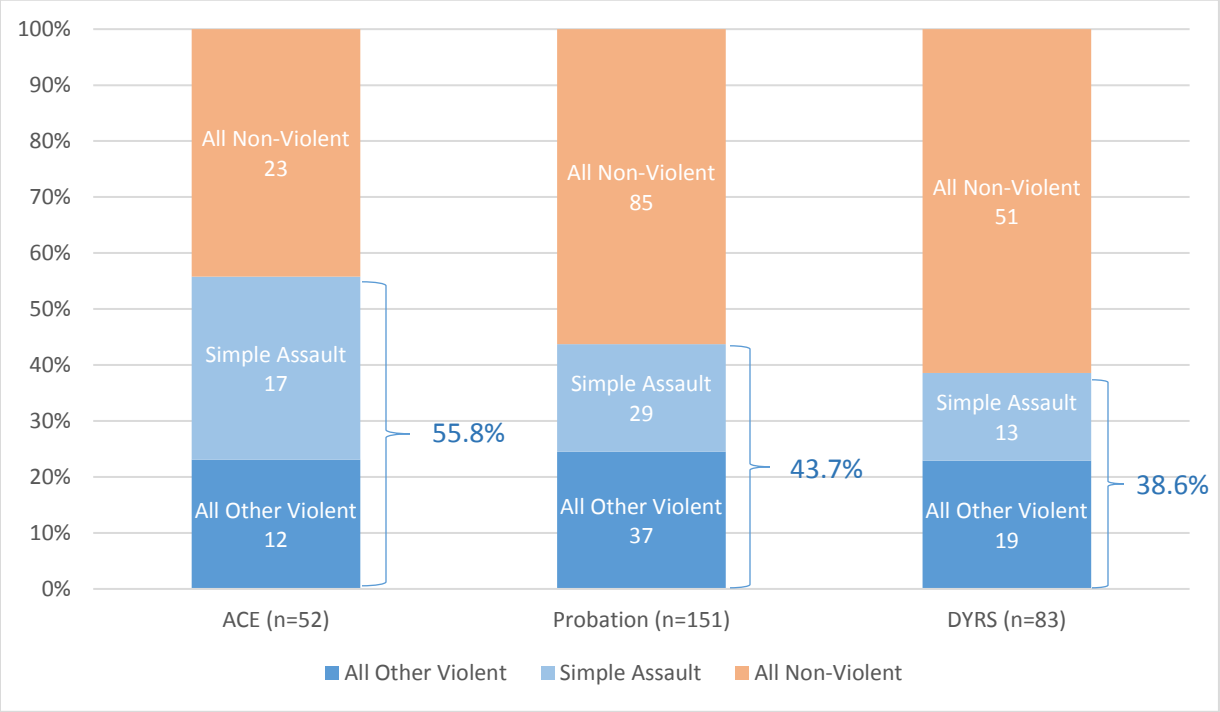
Outcomes during the first year following each of the three available interventions are shown below (Figure 6). When taking all members of the three cohorts and measuring total reoffending as a singular cohort, 62% stayed arrest free, 79% did not have a new filing, and 89% did not have a new conviction or finding of delinquency for an offense that occurred in the year following the successful completion of an intervention.

Figure 6 Success During First Year by Intervention (CY2015 Completion Cohorts)



Examining first rearrest for those in each cohort, the most common new offense category for all three cohorts was violent offenses – though this is predominantly accounted for with simple assaults. Of those ACE completers who had a new arrest, the offense was violent in 55.8% of those arrests. There were 52 persons who completed ACE who were arrested in the first year, 29 of them were for a violent offense, and 17 of those were simple assaults (Figure 7). Similarly, for those completing probation, 151 were arrested in that first year, 66 for a violent offense – including 29 for simple assault. And finally, DYRS completion was followed by an arrest for 85 people, and 32 were for a violent offense – 13 being simple assaults.

Figure 7 Offense Type for Youth Rearrested by Cohort



This pattern is similar for those offenses for which youth are filed in court or adjudicated or convicted. And of note, females make up a large portion of those simple assaults – of 17 youth rearrested for a simple assault after completing ACE, 13 were female and 4 were male. This is consistent with the narrative of juvenile justice partners in the recent past.

It is important to note the role of risk and needs assessments in work with juvenile justice populations. Partners utilize different methodologies for such measures as their purposes are diverse, predicting new offending, violating terms of release, social and global functioning, and the likelihood of appearing in court as required. Risk assessment data was analyzed here for probation and committed populations,[38] revealing little differences in outcome after youth left probation and commitment respectively. But for both groups, it was found that the likelihood of finishing the intervention (probation or commitment) successfully was different for varying risk levels. The higher a youth's risk level, the less likely he or she was to complete probation, and the less likely he or she was to complete commitment without absconding.

Other findings include time to failure (Table 13). For all three cohorts, the first offense occurred in under 5 months for those persons who had a rearrest in the first year. For those with a new filing, the findings were a little different, where those with a new filing coming out of DYRS were involved in a new incident much sooner, at 3.6 months, while those coming from ACE or probation were involved in a new incident in just over 5 months. And this is more pronounced for those found delinquent or criminally convicted.

[38] DHS provided assessment data for the ACE cohort. The Child and Adolescent Functional Assessment Scale (CAFAS) is intended to measure day-to-day functioning and aids in creating a comparative scale of improvement rather than generating a risk to reoffending as is the purpose of DYRS and CSSD tools.

For those coming out of DYRS, and later convicted, the new offense incident was just 2.6 months after release, while it was 6 months after completing ACE and 4.5 months after completing Probation.

Table 13 Time to Failure by Cohort

	Time to Offense for Those Arrested	Time to Offense for Those with New Filing	Time to Offense for Those with Finding of Delinquency or Criminal Conviction
ACE	4.7 Months	5.3 Months	6 Months
Probation	4 Months	5.5 Months	4.5 Months
DYRS	4.1 Months	3.5 Months	2.6 Months

These findings are not such that one could conclude causal factors for success or failure. Instead, they lay an initial baseline for understanding that, at a very high level, the District of Columbia's interventions result in 1-year success rates that are comparable to other cities and regions. While studies of this nature are few and far between, there are some examples from which the District of Columbia can draw comparisons.

In Washington State, recidivism was defined as a new juvenile disposition in 2007 for someone who had a past disposition, and they found that about half of males and females had a past offense.[39] Pennsylvania found 22% of probationers recidivated in the 2 years after 2010 probation completion, including only those offenses adjudicated delinquent or convicted in criminal court.[40] And Florida reports 15% of probation completions resulted in a new delinquency or conviction in the first year following probation in 2013, which includes various permutations of supervision. The variation covered their diversion program with 13% recidivism as the most successful group, and the post-commitment redirection services youth had a 39% rate as the least successful group.[41] And of those youth Massachusetts discharged in 2012, 22% had a new conviction for an offense in the year following that discharge. The state also reported cities such as Worcester and Boston with rates of 46% and 32% respectively.[42]

This presents District of Columbia with the potential for following national and expert recommendations in understanding system interventions and juvenile reoffending. As discussed earlier, municipalities define recidivism differently, measure it for varying periods, and use the information in different ways; but there is great potential for answering these questions in meaningful ways in the District of Columbia. According to CSG, Pew, and CJCA, there is so much variation in measurement and reporting that there is not a definitive useful way to do so;[43] but if the District of Columbia wishes to move forward with thoughtful and evidence-based interventions for juveniles, the groundwork has already been set out in a way that allows for DC to follow standards set forth as ideal.

[39] http://www.cfc.wa.gov/PublicationSentencing/Recidivism/Juvenile_Recidivism_FY2007.pdf

[40] http://www.jcjc.pa.gov/Publications/Documents/Recidivism/Pennsylvania%20Recidivism%20Report_Juveniles%20with%20Cases%20Closed%20in%202007-2010.pdf

[41] http://www.djj.state.fl.us/docs/car-reports/(2014-15-car)-probation-(1-31-2016)-final.pdf?sfvrsn=2

[42] http://www.mass.gov/eohhs/docs/dys/dys-recidivism-report-2016.pdf

[43] http://www.pewtrusts.org/en/multimedia/data-visualizations/2014/measuring-juvenile-recidivism

Opportunities for Future Juvenile Recidivism Work

Consensus around what is meant by recidivism and how to measure it must be matched with consistent and quality data. Determining what programs are impactful also requires defining program goals, measuring dosage, and considering the role of risk and needs assessments across the continuum.

1. **Consensus must be reached on what recidivism means, the purposes for which it will be measured and shared, and how to accomplish annual measurement.**

Defining the Outcomes:

The Pew findings from around the country, cited earlier, indicated that as of 2014, the most common definition of reoffending was re-adjudication or reconviction, used by 28 agencies. Only 30 agencies follow juvenile outcomes into the adult system, and just 19 have a three-year follow up time frame. Meanwhile, many jurisdictions are not following outcomes for youth at all.[44] What this points to is a need for consensus. First the District of Columbia must be precise in defining recidivism, using national examples as a springboard for that discussion. Then measurement can be consistently collected and reported.

Things to consider in order to reach this consensus include measuring system involvement, and the degree of system involvement (history, repetition, severity). Also, recidivism must include measures of reoffending (self-report as well as system responses such as arrest, severity of new offenses, and time to failure). Finally, measures of success should be included to gauge pro-social behaviors (school enrollment, family reunification).

Consistent and Linked Data:

To get to this point requires more and higher quality data. While there is quite a bit of information readily available about youth and their outcomes, the information is not always linked by common identifiers. For example, many youth are not assigned a PDID. Also, for those with an X-Ref assigned, those numbers do not appear to be consistently used or checked for accuracy, leading to disjunction in the data sets. And maintaining arrest number beyond police data would allow one to better follow a case from inception to completion. It would be most useful for all partners to reach agreement on singular, or at least consistent, identifiers for youth in all parts of the system.

Follow up after release also varies across partners. CSS does not manage any follow up measures of reoffending; DYRS follows youth after commitment in adult and juvenile reoffending – arrest, filing and re-adjudication/conviction; and, DHS watches for re-arrest and filing, but not on reconviction or findings of delinquency.

2. **Focus on interventions and provide clarity to processes and goals.**

Define and Measure Interventions:

It is important to hone in on what the interventions are and how to gauge dosage, intent, and outcome. This will aid not only in determining what exists, but also in what works – one cannot determine if something is a success if goals are not clearly defined from the outset. Information about programming that is delivered, and in what dosage it is administered successfully, should be collected

[44] http://www.pewtrusts.org/en/multimedia/data-visualizations/2014/measuring-juvenile-recidivism

regularly and should be quantified so that measures of program impact can be determined. Rather than simply looking at those who complete and those who do not complete, dosage of program treatments should be considered when looking at the impact of a system intervention, as this cannot be gauged by simple dichotomies measuring exposure.

Utilize Risk and Needs Measurement:

Findings around risk assessment indicates a need to further explore risk and how it might aid in identifying which youth need more assistance in staying out of the system after release from supervision. While current tools showed no different in post-release outcome, there are assessments available that aid in such prediction. Singular risk measures are not sufficient to be used by all partners, since they serve different purposes at different points. But risk, as well as needs, must be gauged in order to intervene and improve outcomes.

This baseline analysis was intended to create a starting point to better understand how one could and should measure reoffending, as well as what programs can do to reduce those rates. Future analyses can build upon this research in order to create trend data, and to answer the questions of why and how (WHAT?). Other research being undertaken at this time will also work toward the questions of why and how by addressing the root causes of delinquency for youth in the District.

Appendix A – General Technical Notes[45]

1. Data on each cohort was attained by CJCC from each of three partners: The Department of Human Services (ACE Cohort), the Family Court Social Services Division (Probation Cohort), and the Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services (Commitments Cohort).
    a. New juvenile and adult arrests for offenses committed in the first year following the release date were culled from police department data (MPD), and was linked to persons in each cohort using PDID, as well as supplemented by name and date of birth matches by hand to ensure no ID number incongruences led to failed matches.
    b. New filings and the outcomes of each of those filings were culled from DCSC data, and was linked to persons in each cohort using XRef, as well as supplemented by name and date of birth matches by hand to ensure no ID number incongruences led to failed matches. These new filings and outcomes were only matched for criminal and delinquency cases filed for any cases with incident dates that occurred in the year following their release from a given intervention.
    c. While some partners provided their own findings of individual level reoffending, the above procedures were followed for all three cohorts for consistency of data matching. Data was hand checked in cases of incongruence of conclusions around reoffending between CJCC findings and partner findings.
2. The initial research endeavor included an examination of juvenile reoffending, rather than all reoffending. Partners such as DYRS can retain a committed youth until they turn 21, so a large swath of their cohort were adults at completion. The analysis was undertaken to include juvenile offending, and later added in adult offending so that the original question of juvenile system involvement was addressed, as well as a look at total reoffending.
3. The original data looked at filings that occurred in the first year and convictions that occurred in the first year, rather than filings and convictions for ***offenses*** that occurred in the first year. This oversight is an important note, as it is easily misconstrued. The final analysis was completed, instead, to include those offenses that occurred in the first year, recording arrest, filing, of delinquency/conviction as the indicator of the offense having occurred.
4. Adult arrests and criminal filings were drawn into the cohort datasets separately. While they were pulled out of partner data systems separately, they were not linked one-to-one. Adult arrests were pulled by the PDID and were retained if the incident occurred in the year following release. Court filings were pulled by PDID and were retained if the incident occurred in the year following release. Police data does not include court reference number in the arrest data, and Court data does not include arrest number in the case date. This means that there is a strong likelihood that the arrests and the cases are matched in progression, but there are likely small differences. Considering public safety, program impacts, and juvenile outcomes, the recommendation for data that is clear, linked, and accurate is an important point in ensuring we measure what will help accomplish our shared system goals of public safety and improved youth outcomes.
5. It was also not possible to link the arrests with any program termination – if someone was terminated due to new legal involvement, they were coded by CSSD as "unsuccessful" or some iteration of non-success, but the new offense was not linked firmly. The same is the case for DYRS

[45] Full technical notes on the integration of data sets is available upon request.

persons who absconded and even ACE participants who were removed due to “new legal involvement.” Looking at new offending after release would be intermingled with the new offenses that were the reason for removal. This resulted in the need to examine program completion and outcome, rather than close examination of those who did not successfully complete.

Appendix B – Reoffending by Intervention and Offense Indicator[46]

Table 14 Reoffending for Those Who Completed ACE in CY2015 (n=216)

	No	%	Yes	%
Juvenile Arrests	169	78.2	47	21.8
Adult Arrests	210	97.2	6	2.8
Adult or Juvenile Arrests	164	75.9	52	24.1
Delinquency Filings	189	87.5	27	12.5
Criminal Court Filings	215	99.5	1	0.5
Delinquency or Criminal Court Filings	189	87.5	27	12.5
Delinquency Adjudications	206	95.4	10	4.6
Criminal Convictions	216	100.0	0	0.0
Delinquency Adjudications or Criminal Convictions	206	95.4	10	4.6

Table 15 Reoffending for Those Who Completed CSSD Probation in CY2015 Successfully (n=381)

	No	%	Yes	%
Juvenile Arrests	280	73.5	101	26.5
Adult Arrests	316	82.9	65	17.1
Adult or Juvenile Arrests	230	60.4	151	39.6
Delinquency Filings	331	86.9	50	13.1
Criminal Court Filings	347	91.1	34	8.9
Delinquency or Criminal Court Filings	300	78.7	81	21.3
Delinquency Adjudications	356	93.4	25	6.6
Criminal Convictions	368	96.6	13	3.4
Delinquency Adjudications or Criminal Convictions	344	90.3	37	9.7

Table 16 Reoffending for Those Who Completed a DYRS Commitment in CY2015 and Were Not Released Due to Abscondence (n=155)

	No	%	Yes	%
Juvenile Arrests	139	89.7	16	10.3
Adult Arrests	85	54.8	70	45.2
Adult or Juvenile Arrests	72	46.5	83	52.5
Delinquency Filings	144	92.9	11	7.1
Criminal Court Filings	117	75.5	38	24.5
Delinquency or Criminal Court Filings	106	68.4	49	31.6
Delinquency Adjudications	147	94.8	8	5.2
Criminal Convictions	126	81.3	29	18.7
Delinquency Adjudications or Criminal Convictions	118	76.1	37	23.9

[46] Data tables are matched to bar charts in the full narrative of the report, with the ACE data table matched to Figure 2 on page 6, the CSSD table matched to Figure 4 on page 11, and the DYRS data table matched to Figure 5 on page 16.