

LOUISIANA DRUG COURTS

Currently, there are 47 operational drug court programs in Louisiana. Each program is comprised of a drug court team which is led by a drug court judge and includes a drug court coordinator, treatment staff, prosecutor(s), public defender(s), law enforcement representative(s), case manager(s), and others who work together to ensure that the program operates according to all applicable standards and policies.

Louisiana's drug courts are demanding programs that require frequent drug testing, intensive treatment, judicial oversight, and community supervision and support to ensure the best possible outcomes for offenders with substance abuse problems. While more intensive, these programs are typically less expensive and ultimately more effective than those associated with involvement in traditional correction and supervision settings.

Jurisdictions interested in establishing a drug court program must go through extensive training related to program design, drug testing, substance abuse treatment, drug court case management, and grant fund administration. Once a new program is established, all team members have access to a wide variety of continuing education opportunities on topics ranging from the latest in drug testing protocols to recent advances in pharmacological science and research regarding best practices in treatment.

For more information on the Louisiana Drug Court Program contact: Louisiana Supreme Court Drug Court Office (SCDCO), 1555 Poydras St., Suite 1550, New Orleans, LA 70112. Phone: (504) 568-2020 Fax: (504) 568-2027

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LOUISIANA SUPREME COURT



DRUG COURT PROGRAM

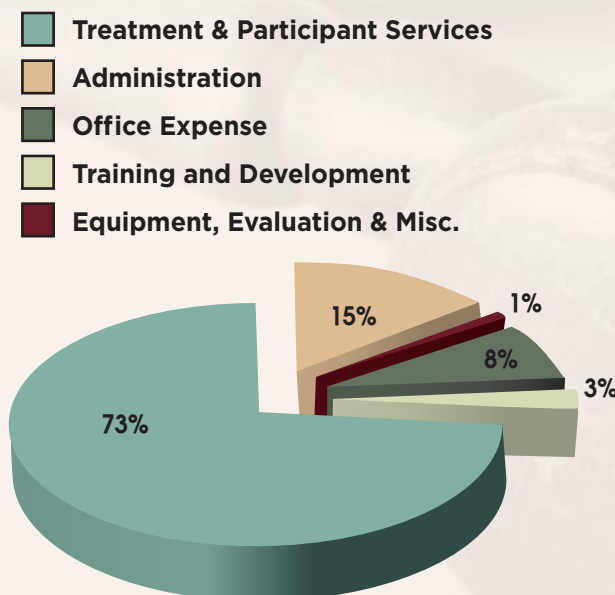
2011

SUPREME COURT DRUG COURT OFFICE

Funds for Louisiana's drug courts are administered by the Supreme Court Drug Court Office (SCDCO). The SCDCO awards funds annually to programs and monitors each program's operations throughout the year.

The SCDCO works with the Louisiana Association of Drug Court Professionals, the Office of Behavioral Health, the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, the Office of Juvenile Justice, the Department of Children and Family Services, and other State and Federal partners to ensure accountability and promote best practices in existing drug court programs. The office also assists with the planning efforts of jurisdictions interested in establishing new drug court programs.

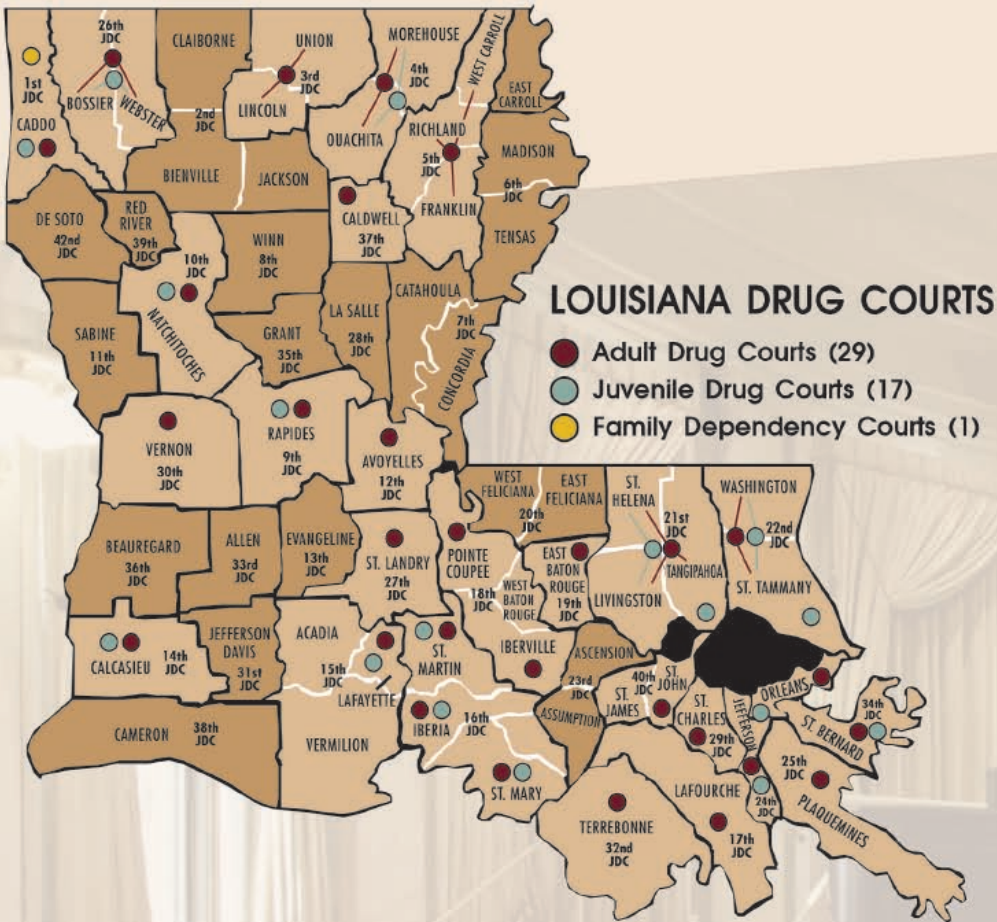
2010 LOCAL PROGRAM EXPENDITURES



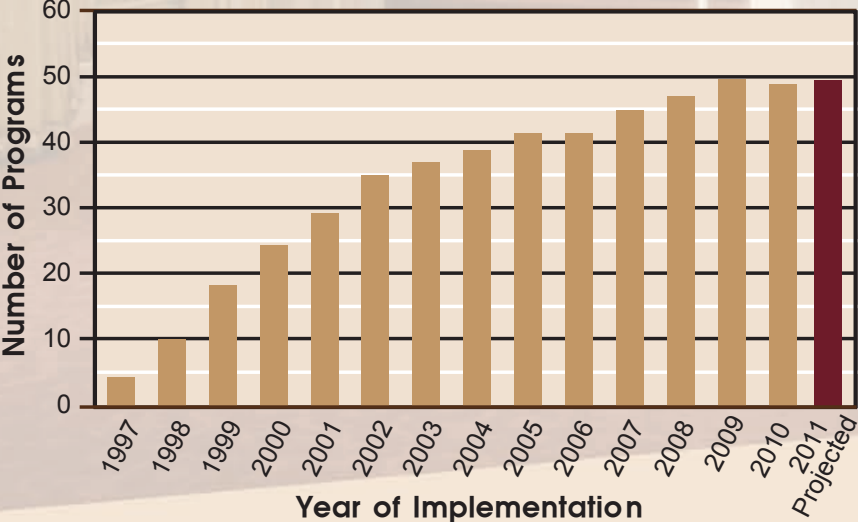
DRUG COURT KEY COMPONENTS

Louisiana's drug courts are based on the following key components for drug courts developed by the U.S. Department of Justice. These components serve as a touchstone for program planning, operations, and evaluation.

- Drug courts integrate alcohol and other drug treatment services with justice system case processing.
- Using a non-adversarial approach, prosecution and defense counsel promote public safety while protecting participants' due process rights.
- Eligible participants are identified early and promptly placed in the drug court program.
- Drug courts provide access to a continuum of alcohol, drug, and other related treatment and rehabilitation services.
- Abstinence is monitored by frequent testing for alcohol and other drugs.
- A coordinated strategy governs drug court responses to participants' compliance.
- Ongoing judicial interaction with each drug court participant is essential.
- Monitoring and evaluation measure the achievement of program goals and gauge effectiveness.
- Continuing interdisciplinary education promotes effective drug court planning implementation, and operations.
- Forging partnerships among drug courts, public agencies, and community-based organizations generates local support and enhances drug court program effectiveness.



Louisiana Drug Court Programs



LOUISIANA DRUG COURT PROGRAM PROFILE

2010 Participants	<p>3,899 individuals were screened for program eligibility in 2010. 51% of those screened were admitted into one of Louisiana’s Drug Court Programs, with approximately 3213 participants served per month during 2010.</p> <p>Nationwide, studies consistently show lower recidivism rates and lower overall costs for drug court participants than for offenders sentenced to conventional criminal justice interventions.</p>
Graduate Recidivism Rates	<p>88.3% of graduates were not re-arrested within one year following graduation.</p> <p>89.1% of graduates were not re-arrested between one and two years following graduation, for a combined rate of 77.4% within two years of graduation.</p> <p>The recidivism rates above were derived from a recent SCDCO review of re-arrests of 2008 Louisiana Drug Court program graduates. These rates are significantly lower than nationally reported recidivism rates of 16.4% one year post-graduation and 27.5% two years post-graduation.</p>
Program Graduates	<p>8,327 participants have graduated since the inception of the Louisiana Drug Court Program in 1997.</p>
Drug-Free Babies	<p>20 drug-free babies were born to active Drug Court participants in 2010. A total of 390 drug-free babies have been born to Drug Court participants since the inception of the Louisiana Drug Court Program in 1997.</p> <p>According to the National Conference of State Legislatures, the cost of care and treatment for each child born addicted to drugs is estimated to be a minimum of \$250,000 for the first year of life, with additional medical and related costs that accrue in subsequent years until the child reaches age 18 estimated to be as high as \$750,000.</p>
Demographics	<p>2010 Adult Participants - 69% male and 31% female; 58% Caucasian, 39% African American, 3% other.</p> <p>61% of adult participants were 26 years of age or older.</p> <p>2010 Juvenile Participants - 79% male, 21% female; 43% Caucasian, 52% African American, 5% other.</p> <p>Age at admission - 66% between 15 and 16 years of age.</p>
Drug Testing	<p>404,869 individual drug screens were administered to Drug Court clients in 2010.</p> <p>Drug Court participants are randomly drug tested at least twice a week during the first two phases of the program, which, combined, last a minimum of 6 to 8 months. During the latter phases, participants are randomly drug tested a minimum of once per week. Participants in drug court programs show high levels of compliance with strict program policies regarding abstinence. Those who test positive for illicit drug use are promptly sanctioned by the drug court judge.</p>

2010 DRUG COURT GRADUATE PROFILE- 885 GRADUATES

Number of Graduates	ADULT GRADUATES - 739	JUVENILE GRADUATES - 146
Onset of Drug Use	24% - Reported first drug use between 10 and 16 years of age. 10% - Reported first drug use between 17 and 21 years of age.	7% - Reported first drug use between 10 and 13 years of age. 10% - Reported first drug use between 14 and 16 years of age.
Drug Use Prior to Program Entrance	37% - Reported six or more years of use. 8% - Reported one to five years of use.	10% - Reported one to three years of use. 3% - Reported four to five years of use.
Arrests Prior to Program Entrance	55.1% - Reported no prior arrests.	77.4% - Reported no prior arrests.
Employment	48% - Employed at admission. 79% - Employed at graduation.	42% - Employed at admission. 58% - Employed at graduation.
Education	29% - High school diploma or GED at the time of admission. 32% - High school diploma or GED at the time of graduation.	71% - Enrolled in school or had a high school diploma or GED at the time of admission. 79% - Enrolled in school or had a high school diploma at the time of graduation.