

Status Update for Nebraska Problem-Solving Courts

Administrative Office of the Courts/Problem-Solving Courts

Overview

As of March 31, 2011, there were 24 operational problem-solving courts: 12 adult drug courts, 5 juvenile drug courts, 5 family dependency drug courts, 1 DUI court and 1 Young Adult Court.

Judicial District	Judge(s)	Court Name/Type	Start Date
1st Judicial District	V. Johnson/Korslund	Southeast Nebraska Adult Drug Court	October 2007
2nd Judicial District	Zastera/Arterburn	Sarpy County Adult Drug Court	February 2007
2nd Judicial District	Gendler/O'Neal	Sarpy County Juvenile Drug Court	January 2000
3rd Judicial District	Flowers/Merritt	Lancaster County Adult Drug Court	June 2001
3rd Judicial District	Thorson	Lancaster County Juvenile Drug Court	April 2001
3rd Judicial District	Heideman	Lancaster County Family Drug Court	October 2005
4th Judicial District	Randall/Schatz	Douglas County Adult Drug Court	April 1997
4th Judicial District	Crnkovich	Douglas County Juvenile Drug Court	February 2000
4th Judicial District	D. Johnson	Douglas County 0-5 Family Dep. Drug Court	May 2005
4th Judicial District	Crnkovich	Douglas County S.T.A.R Family Drug Court	February 2004
4th Judicial District	Thomas	Douglas County Family Recovery Drug Court	May 2007
4th Judicial District	Ashford	Douglas County Young Adult Court	August 2004
6th Judicial District	Hall	District Six Adult Drug Court	December 2007
7th Judicial District	Kube	Northeast Nebraska Adult Drug Court	December 2005
7th Judicial District	Taylor/Stoffer	Northeast Nebraska Juvenile Drug Court	January 2009
8th Judicial District	Brodbeck	North Central Problem-Solving Court (Adult)	June 2010
9th Judicial District	Icenogle/Wright	Central Nebraska Adult Drug Court	September 2001
9th Judicial District	Livingston/Luther	Central Nebraska Adult Drug Court	September 2001
10th Judicial District	Illingworth	Central Nebraska Adult Drug Court	September 2001
10th Judicial District	Ide	Central Nebraska Family Drug Court	October 2007
11th Judicial District	Doyle, IV	Midwest Nebraska Adult Drug Court	July 2006
12th Judicial District	Dobrovolny	Scotts Bluff County Adult Drug/DWI Court	Feb. 2007/Oct. 2007
12th Judicial District	Worden	Scotts Bluff County Juvenile Drug Court	March 2004

Participants

As of May 31, 2011, there were 532* individuals participating in problem-solving courts as measured by a count of cases. The adult category includes the Scotts Bluff County DUI Court and the Douglas County Young Adult Court. Fig.1 shows the populations of the adult and juvenile programs within each judicial district.

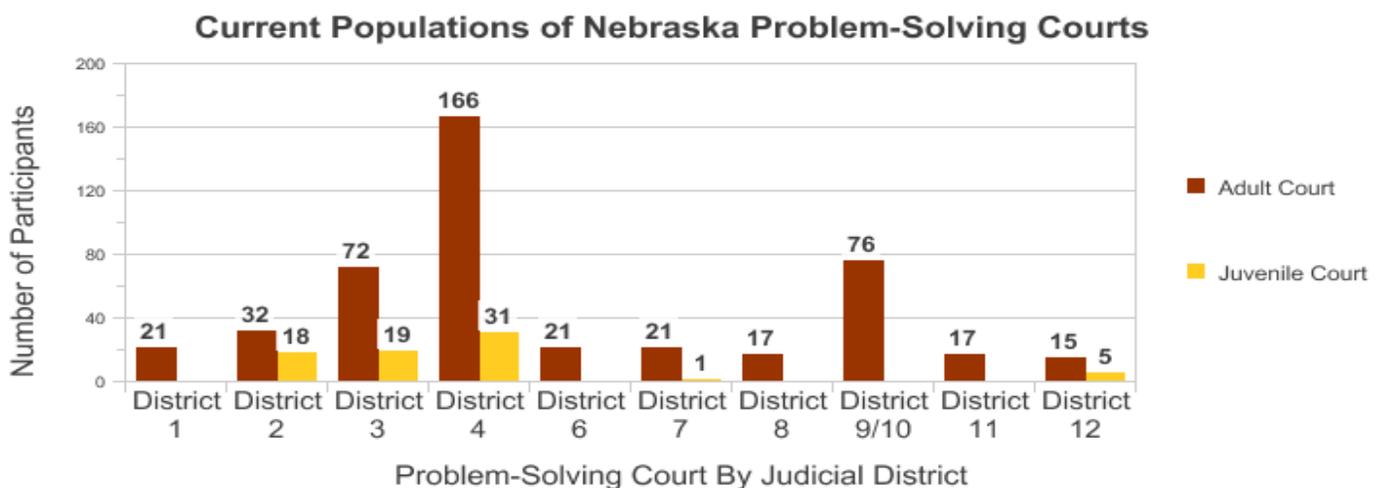


Fig.1

* This does not include the 5 family drug courts. 4 of the 5 programs do not currently utilize the Problem-Solving Court Management Information System. The total # of participants in the Family Drug Courts is: ####

Admissions

Fig. 2 below shows quarterly admissions trends for the adult and juvenile drug courts beginning the 1st Quarter of 2009. The adult line demonstrates that admissions tend to be fairly steady over time. The juvenile line, while significantly lower in numbers of admissions, demonstrates there may be significant variances from one quarter to the next.

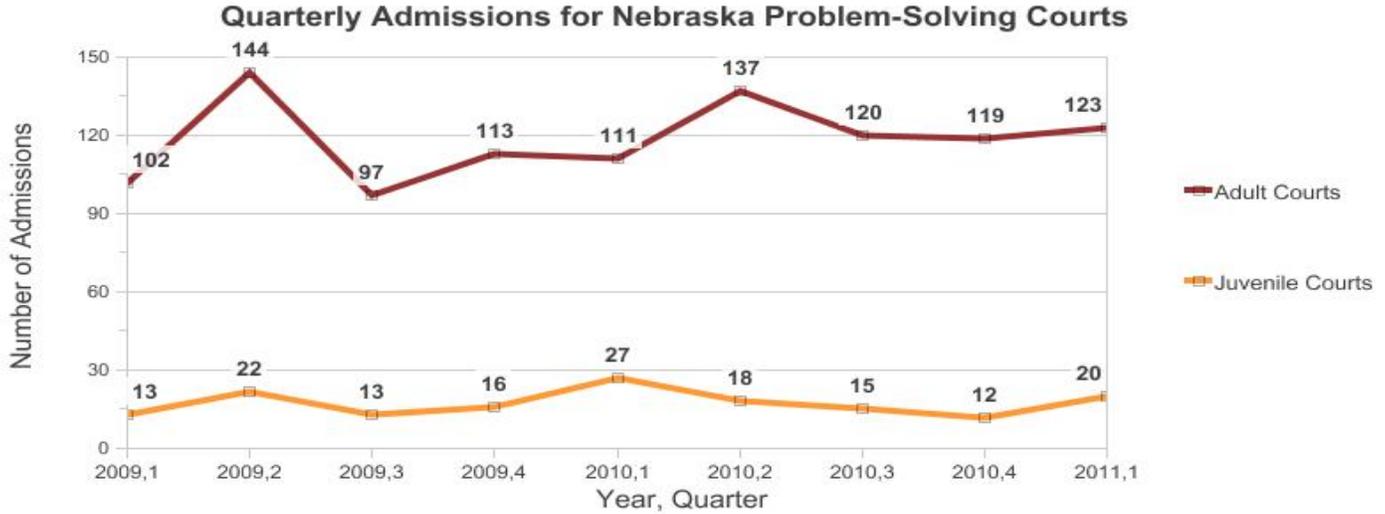


Fig. 2

*Q2, 2009 shows a jump in admissions in the adult drug court. This is likely due to conversion error from old case managements systems to the current system—intake dates not converting correctly.

Departures

Departure from problem-solving court programs happens in four ways: graduation, termination, voluntary withdrawal, and discharge. Graduation is a successful completion of the program. Terminated is a removal from the program due to program violations. Voluntary withdrawal results in the participant requesting release from the program prior to completion. Discharged is a result of an offender leaving the program due to circumstances outside the program's control (i.e. death, age of majority, federal indictment). Fig. 3 reflects the total number of departures by type of departure since the inception of Nebraska problem-solving courts in 1997. Fig. 4 shows the percentage of each departure type.

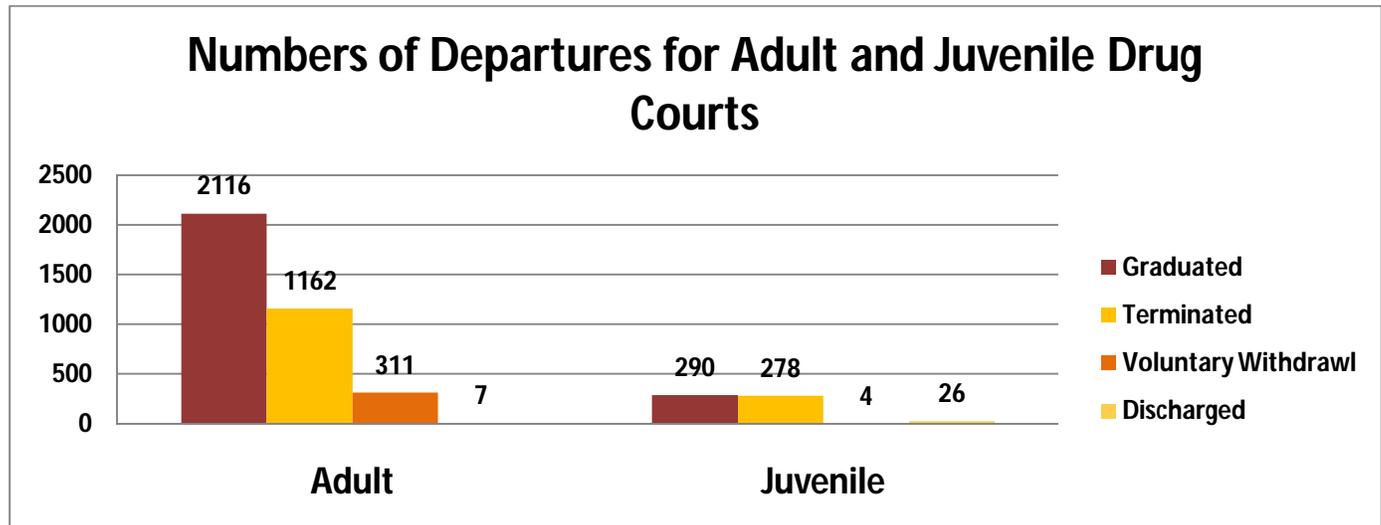


Fig.3

Percentage of Departures for Adult and Juvenile Drug Courts

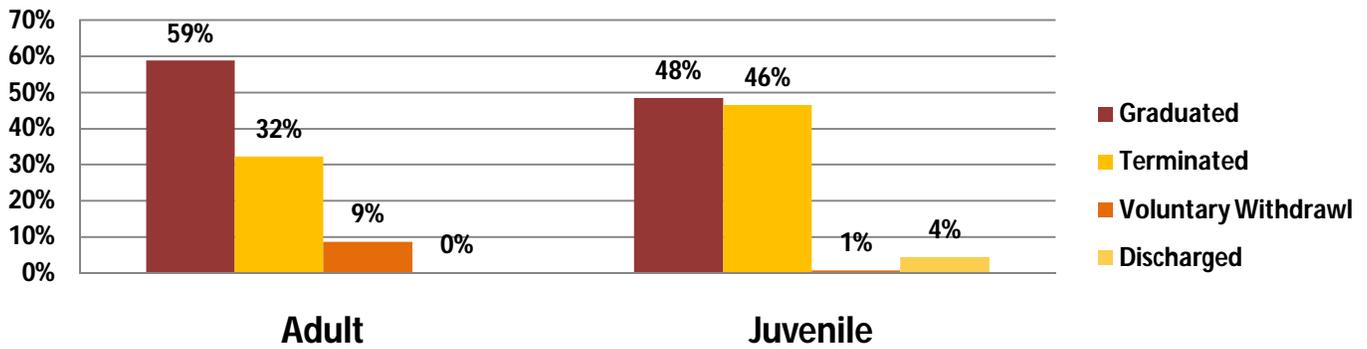


Fig. 4

As we continue the process of completing a statewide evaluation of problem-solving courts, we have begun to look at outcomes for participants who have run the full course of the various problem-solving courts. The following graphs show the departure outcome for those participants that entered a problem-solving court in the first quarter of 2009. This group was selected as it takes an average of 18 months to complete a problem-solving court program, thus a most of the identified participants should have departed the program by March 2011. Fig. 5 shows the outcome of 90 adult participants and 13 juvenile participants broken down by departure type. Fig. 6 shows the percentage of those same 103 offenders broken out by departure type. As you can see, 72% of adult participants and 46% of juveniles leaving the program graduated successfully, while 27% of adults and 46% of juveniles were terminated or withdrew.

Numbers of Departures for Adult and Juvenile Drug Courts for the Quarter 1, 2009 Entry Cohort

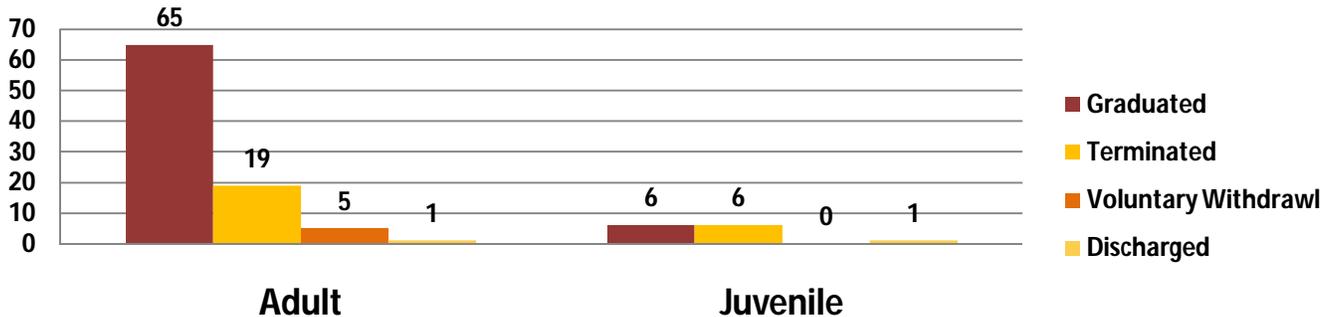


Fig. 5

Percentage of Departures for Adult and Juvenile Drug Courts for the Quarter 1, 2009 Entry Cohort

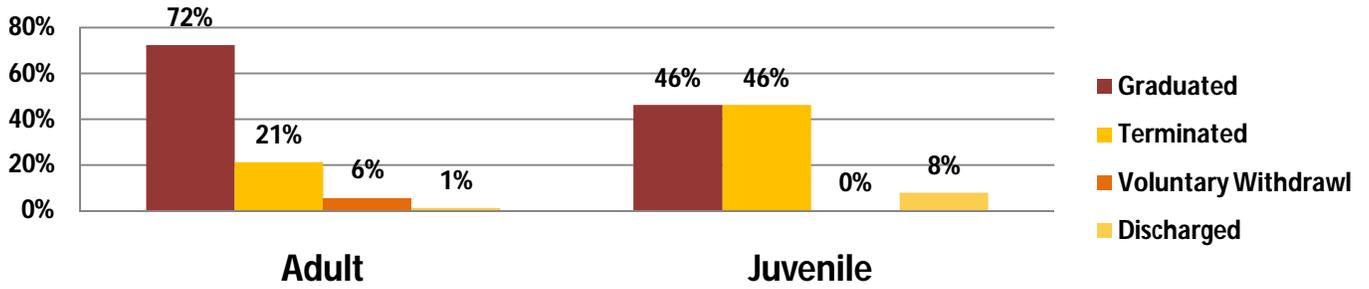


Fig. 6

ⁱ The data in this report was extracted from the statewide Problem-Solving Court Management Information System (PSCMIS) through a collaborative effort between Mike Dunkle, Data Analyst, Nebraska Crime Commission and Scott Carlson, Statewide Coordinator for Problem-Solving Courts, Administrative Office of the Courts/Probation.