

ANALYSIS OF RECIDIVISM RATES
FOR
THE OFFICE OF
YOUTH ALTERNATIVES

PREPARED BY:

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

I. PROGRAM GOAL

Youth Alternatives provides diversion and court services for juveniles appearing in Municipal and Circuit Courts. An effective diversion program uses reinforcement and graduated sanctions to hold the youth accountable and to provide the needed structure and support. The primary goal of these services is to prevent the youth from recommitting an additional crime and moving further into the juvenile justice system. The cost to young people, families, and the community is substantially higher when juveniles require higher court interventions.

II. PROJECT OVERVIEW

With the above goal in mind, Youth Alternatives requested an independent study be completed to determine recidivism rates and the percent of youth served who were later convicted in District Court. There were thus two objectives associated with this study:

1. Compute the recidivism rates for four court service programs operated by the Office of Youth Alternatives;
2. When the data permitted, compute a longitudinal perspective of recidivism rates

The overall objective was to compute recidivism rates for the years 2004, 2005 and 2006 for juveniles placed by the Municipal and Circuit Court into four programs operated by the Office of Youth Alternatives. By ascending size, the four programs studied were:

1. **Work Alternatives Program (WAP):** The young people referred to this program are generally diverted from court and are required to complete supervised community service work at various sites. This program is primarily designed for youth with a low risk for re-offending.
2. **Supervised Probation (PRO):** Juveniles are generally placed on probation for a period of six months. They are placed on one of three levels of probation supervision after a risk and needs assessment is completed. This program is designed for youth with a moderate to high risk of re-offending.
3. **Juvenile Alcohol and Drug Intervention Project (JADIP):** Young people are referred to this program due to drug/alcohol violations.
 - **Track I:** Alcohol education and counseling for first time underage drinkers and their families. This program is designed for youth with a low to moderate risk of re-offending.
 - **Track II:** This is a more intensive program, which addresses the needs of youth who have committed a drug related offense. This program is designed for youth with a high risk of re-offending

4. **Weekend Jail Diversion Project (WEEKENDERS):** This program is an alternative to detention. This program is designed for youth with a high risk of re-offending. Individuals ordered to this program are:
- Placed on home detention during the time they are in this program.
 - Required submit to random home checks by the Police Department.
 - Submit to random a drug test.
 - Required to complete supervised community service from 6:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

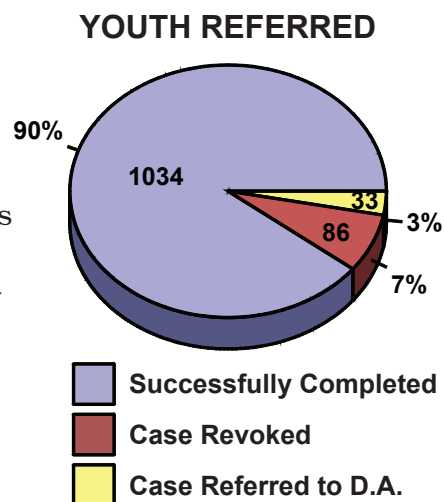
III. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

During the period from 2004 through 2006, a total of 1,153 youth were referred to the identified Youth Alternatives Programs through the Municipal and Circuit Courts.

As can be seen in the pie chart, over this three year period, 1,034 or 90% of those referred youth successfully completed their respective Youth Alternative program. Eighty-six (86) or 7% of those youth did not successfully complete their court requirements and had their case revoked, usually receiving a fine or jail sentence to close the case. Thirty-three (33) or 3% of the youth who did not successfully complete had their case referred to the District Attorney's Office for possible prosecution at the District Court level.

Youth Alternatives provided 1,034 unique client records of those who successfully completed their respective program for this recidivism study. For the purpose of this study, when a juvenile was enrolled in more than one program, he was tracked in the program that offered the most intensive services. For WAP there were 495 participating clients. Probation had 365 participants. JADIP had 110 clients and the Weekender program had 64 clients.

In this study, recidivism is defined as a conviction of another charge after successful completion of one of the Youth Alternatives Programs. To determine recidivism rates, records were checked in late December 2007 or early January 2008 at the Municipal, Circuit and District Courts to determine if the youth had been convicted of another charge since completing his respective program. Youth who were referred in 2004 were checked for a three year period, youth referred in 2005 were checked for a two year period, and youth referred in 2006 were checked for one year. *(Note: The general standard for national recidivism rates is based on the one year from the individual's completion from a program. We chose to compute the recidivism rates on a one, two and three year basis.)*



IV. STATISTICAL RESULTS

The Summary Table below presents some of the primary program and aggregate results from the analysis of the furnished data. The combined average recidivism rate for all four programs for juveniles returning to the lower courts (Municipal/Circuit) and/or those convicted in the higher court (District) was 37.5 percent. Stated in the opposite, 62.5 percent of the youth enrolled in the various intervention programs examined in this report were not convicted in any court of another offense upon terminating from their respective Youth Alternatives' program. These figures were based on counting each individual separately.

SUMMARY TABLE

	Program				Total
	JADIP	WEEK-ENDER	WAP	PROBATION	
Total Youth	110	64	495	365	1,034
Males	54	46	309	248	657
Females	56	18	186	117	377
Program Recidivism Rate	30.9%	31.2%	36.6%	41.9%	37.5%
Repeat Recidivism Rate	1.8%	12.5%	3.8%	6.3%	5.0%
Avg. Elapsed Days - Dist. Ct.	260.8	457.6	482.1	303.5	n.a.
Avg. Elapsed Days - Muni. Ct.	364.1	268.7	396.7	272.8	n.a.

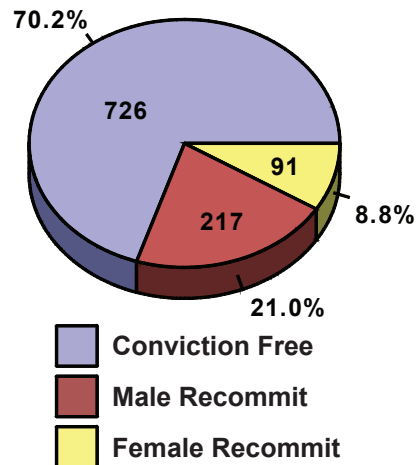
The average repeat recidivism rate for youth who appeared in Municipal Court and then at a later date moved deeper into the court system to be charged in District Court was 5.0 percent over the three year period. Only the Weekender program had a repeat recidivism rate at the double digit level (12.5%).

It is particularly important to note that there is a major difference between the number of unique individuals returning to the lower courts (308 or 29.8 %) and those advancing to the higher court (132 or 12.8%). This is significant because research has indicated the further a juvenile penetrates into the juvenile justice system the less chance he has for success. The two following charts represent the total number of juveniles who returned to both the Municipal/Circuit and District Courts:

Municipal/Circuit Courts

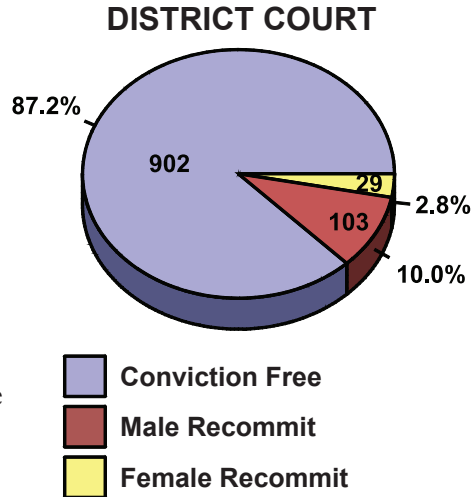
During the one to three year follow up period, 308 (males=217, females=91) or 29.8% of the 1,034 youth were convicted of an additional crime in Municipal or Circuit Court. Seven hundred twenty-six (70.2%) of those who successfully completed did not return to these courts.

MUNICIPAL/CIRCUIT COURTS



District Court

During the one to three year follow up period, 132 (males=103, females=29) or 12.8% of the 1,034 youth were convicted of a crime in District Court. Nine hundred two (87.2%) of those who successfully completed did not appear in District Court.



V. CONCLUSIONS

Limitations:

- The greatest limitation to the study was the inability to compare the study results with a similar group who did not complete the program during the same time period.
- Since participants in the study did not receive isolated services while in the various programs, determination of the effectiveness of a specific service on final outcomes could not be undertaken. For instance, one individual could have received multiple services within Youth Alternatives and additional services outside the agency. It would be impossible to determine the primary factor that influenced the individual’s behavior. This might be an area for future study.
- The period studied exceeded traditional standards for assessing recidivism rates (one year from date of completion), and therefore recidivism rates herein may be greater than programs using only the one year standard.

Highlights:

- Ninety (90%) of the youth referred by the Municipal and Circuit Courts successfully completed their respective Youth Alternatives program.
- Youth who commit a misdemeanor offense and are adjudicated at the lower court level (Municipal and Circuit) are less likely to commit a more serious crime and be convicted at the higher court level (District Court). The majority (87.2%) of those juveniles served in the lower courts were not convicted of a crime in the higher court.
- Youth placed on supervised probation were more likely to recommit (41.9%) another crime. However, as indicated earlier, most of those offenses were at the lower court level and did not lead to higher court convictions.
- Of the youth who completed one of Youth Alternatives programs and was then later charged in the court system, his overall portrait would be a 15-year-old white male appearing in Municipal Court on an alcohol or drug possession charge.
- The number of males referred to the Youth Alternatives programs, outnumbered females by almost two to one (657 males to 357 females). Of the total number of youth who recommitted a crime in any court, forty-two percent (42%) were males compared to thirty percent (30%) females.

JADIP PROGRAM

The JADIP program is referred to as the Juvenile Alcohol/Drug Intervention Program and has two tracks (Track I and Track II). The overall program provides the Municipal Court with positive sentencing alternatives for juveniles who have been found guilty of an alcohol or substance abuse offense and exhibit a high potential toward alcohol and substance abuse. Track II services are for youth who have been found guilty of a second or subsequent offense for an alcohol or drug related citation. Youth who received JADIP services received no additional services.

Due to the small number of observations within this program Track I and II data were combined for the purposes of this analysis.

Table 1 presents total JADIP clients by year in which they entered the program. There were 110 clients over the three year period, 2004 thru 2006, and were relatively proportioned by year.

TABLE 1.

Year	Total Clients
2004	37
2005	39
2006	34
	110

Demographics

Table 2 presents JADIP demographic distributions of clients by age, sex, and race plus incidences of recidivism by District and Municipal court. The District and Municipal court columns include repeat occurrences, i.e. the same individual appeared in Municipal Court and then at a later date appeared in District Court. The distribution of males and females were essentially equal. Recidivism rate was higher for females (38%) than males (28%). District court absolute numbers were identical for both sexes, but the rate for males was higher than that of females, 9.3 percent and 8.9 percent respectively. The incidence of Municipal court recidivism was double that of District court, 26 versus 10.

TABLE 2.

DEMOGRAPHICS				
Age	Males	Race	District Court	Municipal Court
12	1	1W	0	0
13	1	1W	0	0
14	6	3W,2H	1	2
15	10	5W,4H,1B	1	3
16	18	13W,3H,2I	1	4
17	18	16W,2H	2	1
Total	54	40W,11H,2I,1B	5	10
Age	Females	Race	District Court	Municipal Court
12	1	1W	0	0
13	9	8W,1H	1	5
14	15	12W,2H,1I	0	5
15	8	4W,4H	2	3
16	17	15W,1H,1I	2	3
17	6	6W	0	0
Total	56	46W,8H,2I	5	16

Recidivism Rates

Table 3 presents recidivism rates for the JADIP program. For the entire program, the recidivism rate was 31 percent which counted unique individuals only. The number of repeat clients was only 2 for the entire program or 1.8 percent. The major of repeating youth ended up in Municipal Court (23.6%) as compared to 9.1 percent for District Court. The second half of Table 3 presents recidivism rates by year the client entered the JADIP program, not the year the recidivism event occurred. This table included a repeat occurrence, that is an individual may have appeared in both Municipal and District courts. The wide variation in the overall recidivism rates by year is noteworthy and may be worth further examination.

TABLE 3.

RECIDIVISM RATES			
	Rate		
Total Program	30.9%	Unique Clients	
Repeat Clients ⁽¹⁾	1.8%		
District Court	9.1%		
Municipal Court	23.6%		
Rates By Year Of Origin	District	Municipal	Overall
2004	10.8% (4)	24% (9)	35.1% (13)
2005	9.8% (4)	9.8% (4)	20.5% (8)
2006	5.9% (2)	38.0% (13)	44.1% (15)

Elapsed Time

Table 4 presents the length of time that elapsed before a client committed another offense that brought her to court. Elapsed times were computed from the date the client terminated attending Youth Alternatives. They were not computed based upon the year the youth entered or began the JADIP program. Of the 26 Municipal Court observations, on average a client did not recidify for almost one year following program termination. The District Court recidivism time was somewhat shorter, 261 days or 8.7 months.

TABLE 4.

ELAPSED DAYS
<i>District Court - 10 observations</i>
Avg. # of Days: 260.8 or 8.7 months
Max. # of Days: 478 or 15.9 months
Min. # of Days: 121 or 4.0 months
<i>Municipal Court - 26 observations</i>
Avg. # of Days: 364.1 or 1 year
Max. # of Days: 1,106 or 36.9 months
Min. # of Days: 41 or 1.4 months

Longitudinal Results

Table 5 presents longitudinal results for the JADIP program. The time frame for these longitudinal measures ran from 2004 through December 31, 2007. Of the twelve recidivists who began the program in 2004, one relapsed in 2004. Four others did not relapse until 2005, etc. Another way to present the longitudinal results is to say that of the 37 youth who began the JADIP program in 2004, 60 percent have been offense free three years later. The comparable rate for 2005 was 80 percent two years following program termination. Note that of the 2005 clients who did relapse, they did so within about one year of program termination. Recidivism rates for 2006 clients were the highest (29.4%) one year after program origination of all three years studied. Longitudinal results include repeat individuals.

TABLE 5.

LONGITUDINAL RESULTS		
Origin Year	Clients	Year Relapsed
2004	1	2004
2004	4	2005
2004	5	2006
2004	2	2007
2005	0	2005
2005	8	2006
2005	0	2007
2006	3	2006
2006	10	2007
2006	1	2008

WEEKENDER PROGRAM

The Weekender program is formally called the Juvenile Accountability and Enrichment Program. Youth involved in this program are under house arrest from Friday after school until they leave for school on Monday morning. Police will do random checks thorough out the weekend to ensure program compliance. In addition, clients are required to perform community service from 6:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. on Saturday and Sunday. Youth who participated in this program received no other intervention services by Youth Alternatives.

Table 5 presents total Weekender clients by the year in which they entered the program. There were 64 clients over the three year period studied, 2004 through 2006, with the majority enrolled in 2005.

TABLE 6.

Year	Total Clients
2004	2
2005	42
2006	20
	64

Demographics

Table 7 presents Weekender demographic distributions plus incidences of recidivism by District and Municipal Court. The District and Municipal court columns include repeat occurrences, i.e. the same individual appeared in Municipal Court and then at a later date appeared in District Court. It also provides the number of repeat offenders by age and sex. There were substantially more males (2.6 times) enrolled in this program than females. The recidivism rates for males were also much higher than females. The combined courts rate for males was 50 percent whereas the comparable female rate was 28 percent. There were no repeat female offenders in this program. Of the 46 males in the program eight (17.4%) were repeat offenders.

TABLE 7.

DEMOGRAPHICS					
Age	Males	Race	District Court	Municipal Court	Repeat Offenders
12	2	1W,1H	1	0	1
13	5	3H,2B	1	2	1
14	7	3W,3H,1B	2	2	1
15	11	7W,4H	1	6	3
16	8	8W	1	2	1
17	13	11W,2H	2	3	1
Total	46	30W,13H,3B	8	15	8
Age	Females	Race	District Court	Municipal Court	Repeat Offenders
12	0	0	0	0	0
13	3	3W	1	0	0
14	7	5W,2H	1	2	0
15	3	2W,1H	1	0	0
16	3	2W,1H	0	0	0
17	2	2W	0	0	0
Total	18	14W,4H	3	2	0

Recidivism Rates

Table 8 provides recidivism rates for the overall program plus rates by year the client entered this particular Youth Alternative program. The overall program recidivism rate counting only unique individuals was 31.2 percent. The Repeat Recidivism rate was 12.5 percent. As expected the Municipal Court rate was higher than District Court, 26.6 percent versus 17.2 percent.

Given the fact that the majority of clients were enrolled in the Weekender program in 2005, there was an expected finding that the recidivism rate for that year was lower than 2006, 52.4 percent as compared to 70 percent in 2006. These rates include repeat offenders.

TABLE 8.

RECIDIVISM RATES			
	Rate		
Total Program	31.2%	Unique Clients	
Repeat Clients	12.5%		
District Court	17.2%		
Municipal Court	26.6%		
Rates By Year Of Origin⁽¹⁾	District	Municipal	Overall
2004	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)
2005	26.2% (11)	26.2% (11)	52.4% (22)
2006	35.0% (7)	35.0% (7)	70.0% (14)

1. Includes repeat offenders

Elapsed Time

Table 9 presents Weekender elapsed times. That is the length of time in days that elapsed before a client committed another offense that brought him to court. Elapsed times were computed from the date the client terminated the Weekender program and include repeat offenders. They were not computed based upon the year the youth entered or began the Weekender program.

For Municipal Court the average elapsed time was 269 days. The maximum time that passed before a relapse was 872 days and minimum was 11 days. For District Court the average time before a relapse was 458 days or 15.3 months. The maximum and minimum elapsed times were 822 days and 26 days respectively. There were 18 Municipal Court observations and 19 District Court observations used in the computation of these relapse rates and they include repeat occurrences.

The majority of offences committed by relapsed youth in the Weekender program involved some form of fighting (assault, battery, tumultuous acts).

TABLE 9.

ELAPSED DAYS
<i>District Court - 19 observations</i>
Avg. # of Days: 457.6 or 15.3 months
Max. # of Days: 822 or 27.4 months
Min. # of Days: 26
<i>Municipal Court - 18 observations</i>
Avg. # of Days: 268.7 or .74 years
Max. # of Days: 872 or 29.1 months
Min. # of Days: 11

Longitudinal Results

Table 10 presents longitudinal results for this program. The time period for these measures ran from 2004 through December 31, 2007. There were a few occurrences for 2008. Table data includes repeat occurrences. There were no repeat offenses for year 2004 for clients entering the program in 2004, but there were only two clients for the year. For those entering the program in 2005, 12 clients found their way back to the courts in 2006 and another 10 were back in court sometime during 2007. Of the 42 clients who entered the program in 2005, 24 or 57 percent had not relapsed through the end of December 31, 2007. For 2006 entrants, 6 relapsed in that same year with another 7 relapsing in by 2007. Ten or 50 percent out of the 20 clients who began the Weekender program in 2006 had no recidivism events by the end of 2007.

TABLE 10.

LONGITUDINAL RESULTS (Weekender)			
Origin Year	Clients	Year Relapsed	
2004	0	2004	0MC, 0DC
2004	0	2005	0MC, 0DC
2004	0	2006	0MC, 0DC
2004	0	2007	0MC, 0DC
2005	0	2005	0MC, 0DC
2005	12	2006	8MC, 4DC
2005	10	2007	3MC, 7DC
2006	6	2006	5MC, 1DC
2006	7	2007	2MC, 5DC
2006	1	2008	0MC, 1DC
	36		

WORK ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM (WAP)

This program allows Youth Alternative clients to complete a specified number of community service hours as a repayment to the community for a criminal offense. Clients can be diverted before a court hearing, or ordered by the court to complete the community service. Once they have full-filled the number of mandated hours, the charges will be dismissed or the case is terminated. WAP is considered the least intensive intervention program of the four studied herein. Clients counted in this program only participated in community service and received no other additional services.

Table 11 provides the number youth who participated in this program for the three years under study. There were a total of 495 clients over the three period.

TABLE 11.

(WAP)	
Year	Total Clients
2004	181
2005	162
2006	152
	495

Demographics

Table 12 presents WAP demographic distributions and recidivism numbers along the identical lines of the other programs thus far presented in this report. The District and Municipal court columns include repeat occurrences, i.e. the same individual appeared in Municipal Court and then at a later date appeared in District Court. For boys the incidences of recidivism begin to increase sharply at the age of 13 and tend to peak at age 15. The overall rate of recidivism for males is greater than females, 45 percent and 32 percent respectively. The absolute number of males participating in WAP was 1.7 times larger than female participation. Also the number of male repeat offenders was approximately 4 times greater than that of female repeat offenders.

TABLE 12.

DEMOGRAPHICS					
(WAP)					
Age	Males	Race	District Court	Municipal Court	Repeat Offenders
9	1	1B	0	0	0
10	2	1W,1B	0	0	0
11	2	1H,1B	1	0	0
12	25	10W,12H,3B	6	9	1
13	49	33W,5B,11H	4	17	2
14	71	49W,18H,3B,1A	7	24	3
15	69	58W,7H,3B,1A	9	31	4
16	49	34W,8H,5B,1I,1A	9	17	4
17	39	31W,6H,2B	2	3	1
18	2	1W,1A	1	0	0
Total	309	217W,63H,23B,4A,1I	39	101	15
Age	Females	Race	District Court	Municipal Court	Repeat Offenders
8	1	1W	0	0	0
9	0		0	0	0
10	1	1W	0	0	0
11	1	1W	0	0	0
12	16	9W,3H, 4B	1	5	0
13	42	27W,11H,4B	3	17	3
14	28	13W,13H,1B,1A	3	9	1
15	34	28W, 3H,3B	2	11	0
16	27	20W,5H,1B,1I	0	5	0
17	35	24W, 9H,1B,1A	3	1	0
18	1	1W	0	0	0
Total	186	14W,4H	12	48	4

Recidivism Rates

Table 13 presents recidivism rates for the WAP program. For the entire program, the recidivism rate was 36.6 percent which counted unique individuals only. There 15 male repeat clients and 4 female repeaters giving a 3.8 percent repeat recidivism rates for the entire program over the three year period.

Of the youth who ended up back in court upon termination of their WAP participation, the majority were charged in Municipal Court (30.1%) as compared to 10.1 percent for District Court.

The second half of Table 13 presents recidivism rates by year the client entered the WAP program, not the year the recidivism event occurred. This table includes repeat occurrences, that is an individual may have appeared in both Municipal and District courts. Of the 181 youth who began the program in 2004, 44.8 percent eventually reoffended. The comparable 2005 rate was 52.5 percent and for 2006, it was 40.1 percent. The variation in the overall recidivism rates for WAP was less than that found for JADIP and the Weekender programs.

TABLE 13.

RECIDIVISM RATES (WAP)			
	Rate		
Total Program	36.6%	Unique Clients	
Repeat Clients	3.8%		
District Court	10.3%		
Municipal Court	30.1%		
Rates By Year Of Origin⁽¹⁾	District	Municipal	Overall
2004	6.6% (12)	38.1% (69)	44.8% (81)
2005	11.0% (26)	11.0% (32)	52.5% (58)
2006	8.6% (13)	31.6% (48)	40.1% (61)

1. Includes repeat offenders

Elapsed Time

Table 14 presents WAP elapsed times. The same methodology used for the earlier programs was used to compute the figures found in this table. Elapsed times were computed from the date the client terminated the WAP program and include repeat offenders. They were not computed based upon the year the youth entered the program.

For Municipal Court the average elapsed time was 397 days or 1.1 years. The maximum time that passed before a relapse was 1,195 days and minimum was 5 days. For District Court the average time before a relapse was 482 days or 16 months. The maximum and minimum elapsed times were 847 days and 89 days respectively. There were 149 Municipal Court observations and 51 District Court observations used in the computation of these relapse rates and they include repeat occurrences.

The majority of offences landing WAP clients in Municipal Court centered on fighting and tumultuous acts (45 incidences) and underage drinking/drug possession (27 occurrences). For District Court, drug and alcohol were some of the most common offenses, approximately 25 percent of the 51 incidences.

TABLE 14.

ELAPSED DAYS (WAP)
<i>District Court - 51 observations</i>
Avg. # of Days: 482.1 or 16.1 months
Max. # of Days: 847 or 28.2 months
Min. # of Days: 89 or 3.0 months
<i>Municipal Court - 149 observations</i>
Avg. # of Days: 396.7 or 1.1 years
Max. # of Days: 1,195 or 39.8 months
Min. # of Days: 5 or .2 months

Longitudinal Results

Table 15 provides longitudinal results for this program. Of the 181 youth who began WAP in 2004, 15 committed offenses that brought them to Municipal Court in 2004. Another 41 landed back in the courts by 2005, 15 in 2006 and 11 in 2007. Table 15 provides the same details for those starting WAP in 2005 and 2006. Of the 181 youth in entered WAP in 2004, 55 percent never returned to either court three years after completing WAP.

Of the 162 youth who began WAP in 2005, 64 percent remained offense free two years later or through the end of 2007. For 2007 of the 152 who commenced WAP, 59 percent were offense free one year later.

TABLE 15.

LONGITUDINAL RESULTS (WAP)			
Origin Year	Clients	Year Relapsed	
2004	15	2004	All MC
2004	41	2005	29MC 12DC
2004	15	2006	15MC
2004	11	2007	11MC
2005	0	2005	
2005	30	2006	20MC 10DC
2005	28	2007	12MC 16DC
2006	11	2006	10MC 1DC
2006	46	2007	36MC 10DC
2006	5	2008	3MC 2 DC
	202		

PROBATION

Under this program, participating youth were either convicted of a significant crime or needed supervision for some period of time. The Probation program is considered the most intensive of all Youth Alternative intervention programs. Clients are required to attend regular meetings with a probation officer and complete a probation project. Some may also be required to do two weekends in the Weekender program. Youth participating in Probation services could also have participated in WAP, Weekender or JADIP programs.

Table 16 presents total Probation clients by the year in which they entered the program. There were 365 clients over the three year period studied.

TABLE 16.

(Probation)	
Year	Total Clients
2004	82
2005	138
2006	145
	365

Demographics

Table 17 presents Probation demographic distributions and recidivism numbers. The District and Municipal court columns include repeat occurrences, i.e. the same individual appeared in Municipal Court and then at a later date appeared in District Court. Recidivism rates for males were double digit in magnitude and relatively consistent between the ages of 13 and 16. There were 21 repeat male offenders in this program. The data for females pointed to much lower recidivism rates. There were only two repeat offenders out of 117 female youth participating in the Probation program.

TABLE 17.

DEMOGRAPHICS (Probation)					
Age	Males	Race	District Court	Municipal Court	Repeat Offenders
12	18	12W,3H,3B	5	4	0
13	42	31W,9H,1B,1I	5	20	3
14	48	36W,9H,3B	10	22	6
15	38	23W,4B,10H,1I	8	17	5
16	55	42W,10H,3B	13	23	6
17	46	42W,3H,1B	10	5	1
18	1	1H	0	0	0
Total	248	186W,45H,15B,2I	51	91	21
Age	Females	Race	District Court	Municipal Court	Repeat Offenders
11	1	1W	0	0	0
12	10	5W,4H,1B	0	6	0
13	17	7W,8H,2B	1	4	0
14	28	22W,5H,1B	5	5	2
15	29	21W,5H,3B	1	5	0
16	21	14W,4H,2B	1	5	0
17	11	7W,3H,1B	1	0	0
Total	117	77W,29H,10B	9	25	2

DC & MC columns include repeat occurrences

Recidivism Rates

Table 18 contains recidivism rates for the Probation program. The overall recidivism rate (41.9%) for this program was the second highest of the four programs. In absolute numbers that means of the 365 male and female clients involved in this program, 153 unique individuals returned to the courts following their participation in the Probation program. The repeat recidivism rate (6.3%) was the second lowest of the four programs, but was significantly higher than WAP’s rate of 3.8 percent which had the largest number of participants. Given the fact that Probation clients tend to commit the more serious crimes, this higher repeat recidivism rate may not be unexpected outcome.

The second half of this table presents recidivism rates by year the client entered the program. For example of the 82 youth who entered in 2004, the overall rate for that group was 54.9 percent. For those entering in 2006, the rate was 53.8 percent. Like the other programs, Municipal Court had the highest incidence rates. All rates in the bottom half of Table 18 include repeat offenders.

TABLE 18.

RECIDIVISM RATES (Probation)			
	Rate		
Total Program	41.9%	Unique Clients	
Repeat Clients	6.3%		
District Court	16.4%		
Municipal Court	31.8%		
Rates By Year Of Origin⁽¹⁾	District	Municipal	Overall
2004	11.0% (9)	43.9% (36)	54.9% (45)
2005	18.1% (25)	25.4% (35)	43.5% (60)
2006	17.2% (25)	36.6% (53)	53.8% (78)

1. Includes repeat offenders

Elapsed Time

Table 19 presents Probation elapsed times. The same methodology used for the earlier programs was used to compute the figures found in this table. Elapsed times were computed from the date the client terminated the Probation program and include repeat offenders. They were not computed based upon the year the youth entered the program.

For Municipal Court the average elapsed time was 273 days or 9.1 months. The maximum time that passed before a relapse was 1,021 days and minimum was 1 day. For District Court the average time before a relapse was 303.5 days or 10.1 months. The maximum and minimum elapsed times were 629 days and 21 days respectively. There were 116 Municipal Court observations and 60 District Court observations used in the computation of these relapse rates and they include repeat occurrences.

The majority of offences landing Probation clients in Municipal Court centered on alcohol and drug possession (41 occurrences). Shoplifting was the second most common charge with 22 incidences and fighting was third with 16 occurrences.

For District Court, drug and alcohol possessions were the majority offenses committed (21 incidences out of 60 incidences). Second was CHINS with 10 occurrences followed by 9 property related incidences.

TABLE 19.

ELAPSED DAYS (Probation)
<i>District Court - 60 observations</i>
Avg. # of Days: 303.5 or 10.1 months
Max. # of Days: 629 or 21.0 months
Min. # of Days: 21 or .7 months
<i>Municipal Court - 116 observations</i>
Avg. # of Days: 272.8 or 9.1 months
Max. # of Days: 1,021 or 2.8 years
Min. # of Days: 1 or .03 months

Longitudinal Results

Table 20 provides longitudinal results for the Probation program. Only 3 youth who began the program in 2004 returned to the court system in 2004. Twenty-five found their way back to the courts within one year of program termination with 16 landing in Municipal Court and 9 in District Court. In 2006, two years following program termination another 13 were back in Municipal Court. Of the 82 youth who began the program in 2004, 37 or 45 percent had no incidences of recidivism three years following program termination.

The reader can follow the same patterns through the balance of Table 20. For year 2005, 80 youth (58%) out of 138 who began the program in that year had no recidivism event two years following program termination. For 2006, the results were not as favorable. Out of the 145 who began the program in that year, 67 or (46%) had not returned to the court system one year later. The rate of recidivism for 2006 was much higher than in the previous years.

TABLE 20.

LONGITUDINAL RESULTS (Probation)			
Origin Year	Clients	Year Relapsed	
2004	3	2004	All MC
2004	25	2005	16MC, 9DC
2004	13	2006	13MC
2004	4	2007	4MC
2005	0	2005	
2005	35	2006	26MC, 9DC
2005	23	2007	8MC, 15DC
2006	12	2006	12MC
2006	62	2007	39MC, 23DC
2006	4	2008	2MC, 2DC

