

Report to the Governor and the General Assembly on Pretrial Diversionary Programs Connecticut Sentencing Commission

Nine Diversionary Programs Studied (eligibility, legislative history, program requirements)

1. Accelerated Rehabilitation;
2. the Alcohol Education Program;
3. the Drug Education Program;
4. the Family Violence Education Program;
5. the School Violence Prevention Program;
6. the Supervised Diversionary Program;
7. Illegal Sale, Delivery, or Transfer of Pistols or Revolvers Program;
8. Treatment for Alcohol or Drug Dependency;
9. Program for Underage Motor Vehicle Violations/Underage Drinking

Enrollment Data Analysis (for programs 1-8, from 2009 to 2018)

I. *Program Enrollment*

- Nearly 70% of enrollments were in Accelerated Rehabilitation or Alcohol Education
- Men made up more than two-thirds of participants
- Over half of participants were between 16 and 30 years old.

II. *Race & Ethnicity*

- 63% White
- 17% Black
- 17% Hispanic
- 2% Others

III. *Multi-Program Enrollment*

- 87% – enrolled in 1 program, 1 time
- 11% – enr. 2 times or in 2 programs
- 2% – enr. 3+ times

IV. *Prior Arrest/Conviction History*

- 41% had a prior arrest
- 18% had a prior conviction

V. *Program Passage Rates*

- 91.4% of enrolled dockets had all charges dismissed or *nolled*
- 8.4% of dockets resulted in at least 1 conviction
- 0.2% resulted in some other disposition (not guilty, bond forfeiture)
- Asian participants had the highest success rates (96%), followed by white participants (92%), Hispanic participants (90%), and black participants (89%).
- Females had higher success rates (93%) than males (91%).

VI. *1-Year Recidivism Rates*

- Alcohol Education Program – 2.7% rearrest; 2.4% convicted
- Drug Education Program – 5.9% rearrest; 1.9% convicted
- Family Violence Education Program – 8.6% rearrest, 4.4% convicted

VII. *Fee Waivers*

- In 36% of enrollments, the court waived some or all program fees.
- Black defendants were most likely (53%) to have fees waived, followed by Hispanic defendants (38%), white defendants (31%), and Asian defendants (18%)