



West
Virginia

ADULT DRUG COURTS

FY 2023

Supreme
Court of
Appeals of
West
Virginia

Division of
Probation
Services

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- The West Virginia Adult Drug Court (ADC) Program is a cooperative effort of the criminal justice, social service, substance abuse treatment, and law enforcement systems.
- The ADCs are established in accordance with The West Virginia Drug Offender Accountability and Treatment Act (*West Virginia Code* § 62-15-1, *et seq.*) and are designed and operated consistent with the Ten Key Components of Drug Courts, authored by All Rise, and operate under policies and procedures established in consultation with the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia.
- All ADCs use evidence-based treatment approaches and assessments and are to be evaluated annually.
- Referrals to ADC can be made by judicial officials, law enforcement, probation officers, prosecutors, and defense counsel. The final acceptance of participants into ADC must be approved by the Prosecutor and the Drug Court Judge.
- The program is structured in four phases with built-in Aftercare in the program. The minimum program length is one (1) year, as set forth by code. Drug Courts may include pre-adjudication or post-adjudication participation.
- Program components include: intensive supervision, frequent and observed drug testing, meetings between participants and their probation officer, counseling sessions for participants, court appearances for participants, and community service.
- The program seeks to achieve a reduction in recidivism and substance abuse among offenders and to increase the likelihood of successful rehabilitation through early, continuous, and intense treatment; mandatory periodic drug testing; community supervision; appropriate sanctions and incentives; and other rehabilitation services, all of which is supervised by a Circuit Judge.
- Cost savings for the criminal justice system stem from reduced re-arrests, law enforcement contacts, court hearings, and use of jails or prisons. Other cost savings for the State result from decreased use of residential treatment centers.
- For FY 2023, **the average annual cost per drug court participant was \$5,453.27**, as compared to \$19,425 in the Regional Jail or \$26,081 in a Division of Corrections and Rehabilitation prison. These costs include intensive supervision, treatment, case management, and drug testing.
- As of June 30th, 2023, there were thirty (30) operating ADC programs covering forty-one (41) counties: Berkeley, Boone, Brooke, Cabell, Calhoun, Fayette, Greenbrier, Hampshire, Hancock, Hardy, Harrison, Jackson, Jefferson, Kanawha, Lewis, Lincoln, Logan, Marion, Marshall, Mason, McDowell, Mercer, Mingo, Monongalia, Monroe, Morgan, Nicholas, Ohio, Pendleton, Pocahontas, Putnam, Raleigh, Randolph, Roane, Summers, Tyler, Upshur, Wayne, Wetzel, Wood counties.
- National reports support the effectiveness of ADCs that adhere to best practices and evidence-based practices from the fields of substance abuse treatment and counseling.
- There were **870** total participants served in FY 2023.
- The overall recidivism rate for Adult Drug Courts in West Virginia is approximately **15.9%**.

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