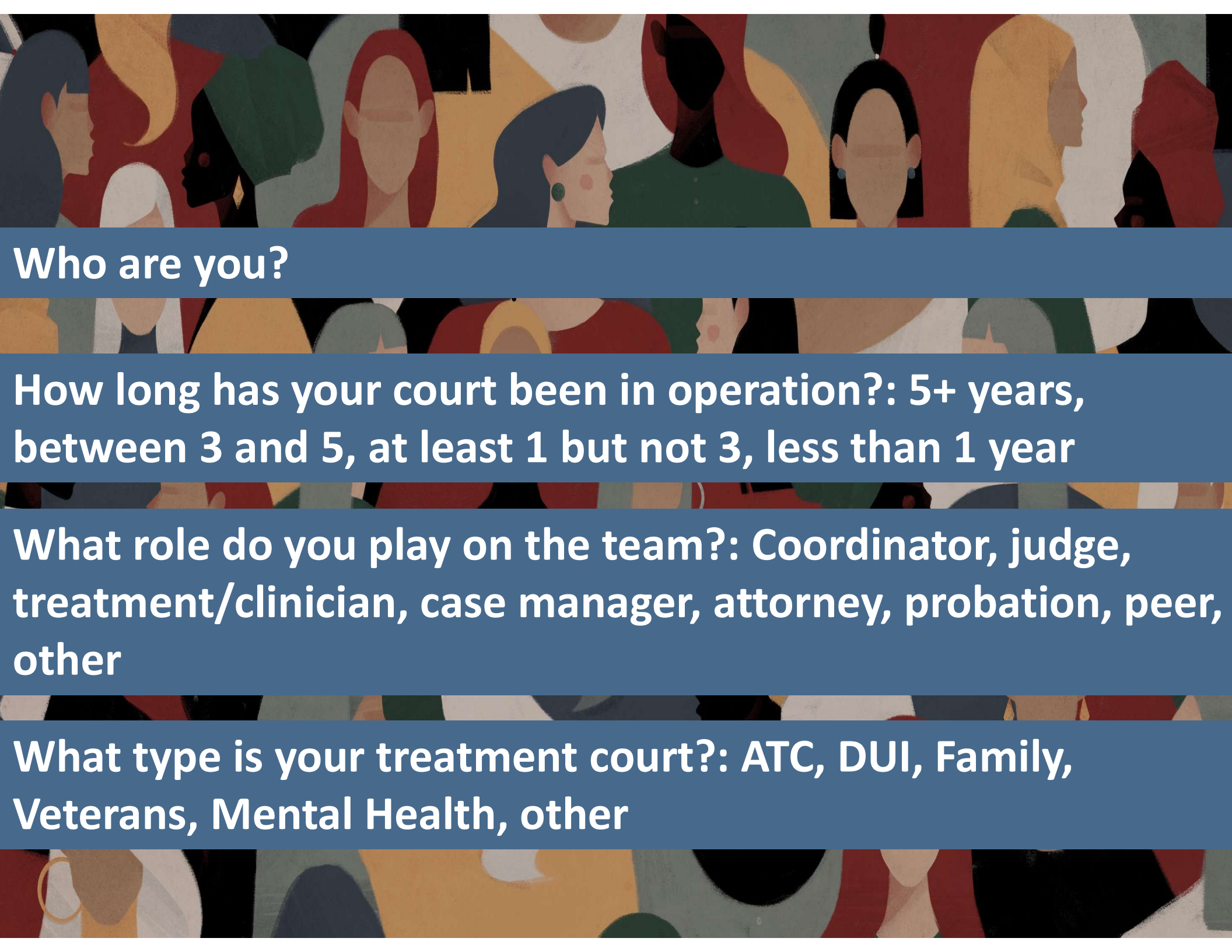


EVALUATION 101 FOR NON-RESEARCHER TEAM MEMBERS:

WHAT TO COLLECT AND HOW TO USE IT
FOR SELF-REVIEW



OhioCourtEdu – July 9, 2026



Who are you?

How long has your court been in operation?: 5+ years, between 3 and 5, at least 1 but not 3, less than 1 year

What role do you play on the team?: Coordinator, judge, treatment/clinician, case manager, attorney, probation, peer, other

What type is your treatment court?: ATC, DUI, Family, Veterans, Mental Health, other

OVERVIEW

- 1 *BENEFITS OF EVALUATION AND MONITORING*
- 2 *MONITORING AND EVALUATION*
- 3 *WHAT DATA DO WE NEED TO COLLECT?*
- 4 *RESOURCES AND FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES*
- 5 *QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS*



*How does the suggestion that
you collect data and evaluate
your program (on top of
everything else you do)
make you feel?*

Program Monitoring, Evaluation, and Improvement

The treatment court continually monitors its adherence to best practices, evaluates its outcomes, and implements and assesses needed modifications to improve its practices and outcomes. A competently trained and objective evaluator employs scientifically valid methods to reach causal conclusions about the effects of the program on participant outcomes.

PROVISIONS:

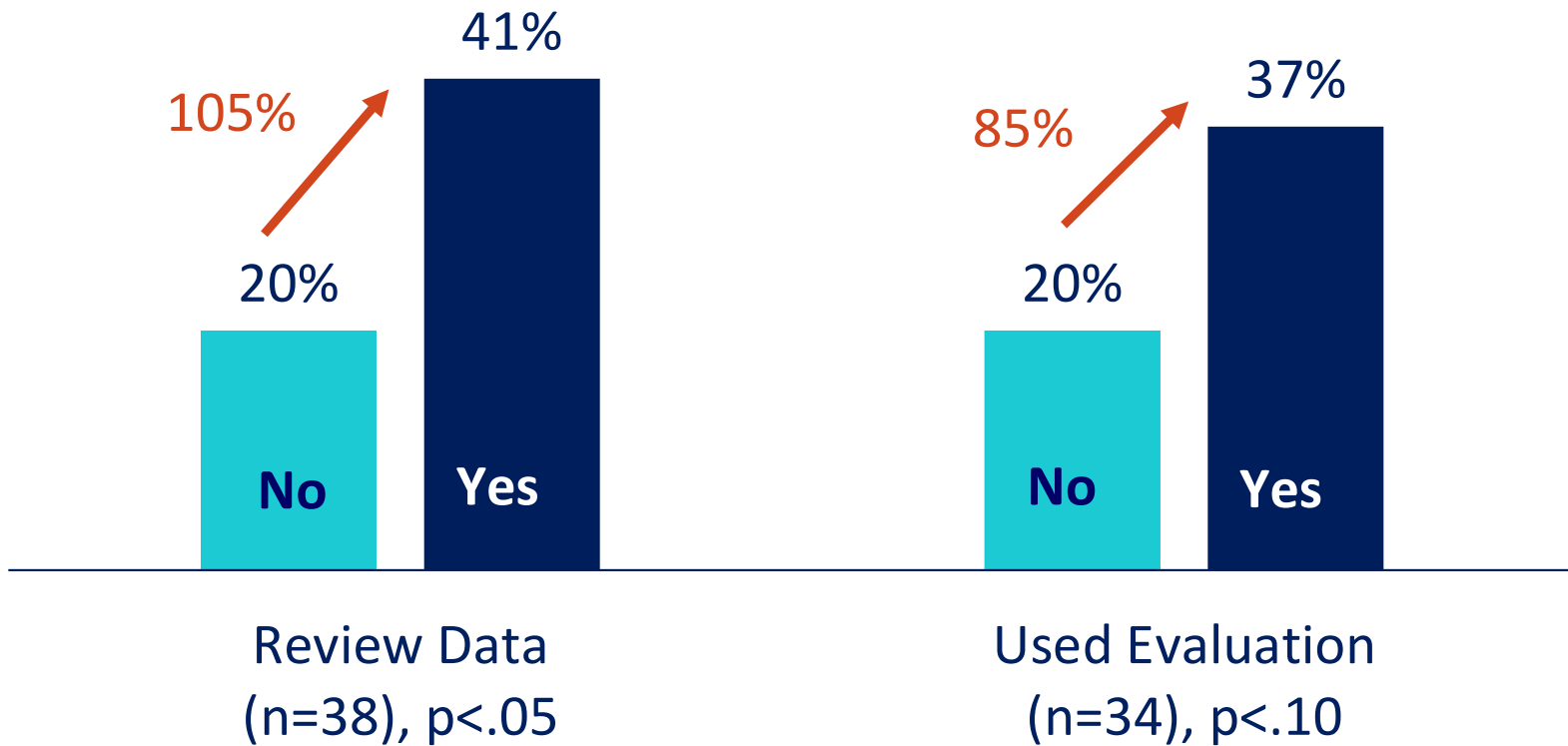
- | | |
|------------------------------|---|
| A. Monitoring Best Practices | F. Psychosocial Outcomes |
| B. Intent to Treat Analyses | G. Timely and Reliable Data Entry |
| C. Comparison Groups | H. Electronic Database |
| D. Time at Risk | I. Evaluator Competency and Objectivity |
| E. Criminal Recidivism | |

<https://allrise.org/publications/standards/>



WHY DO WE CARE?

REDUCTIONS IN RECIDIVISM



Carey, Finigan, & Pukstas (2008);
Carey, Mackin, & Finigan (2012)



- Do you collect and analyze any data besides data in the Participant Information spreadsheet your docket submits monthly?
- If yes, what else do you collect?

WHY DO WE COLLECT DATA?

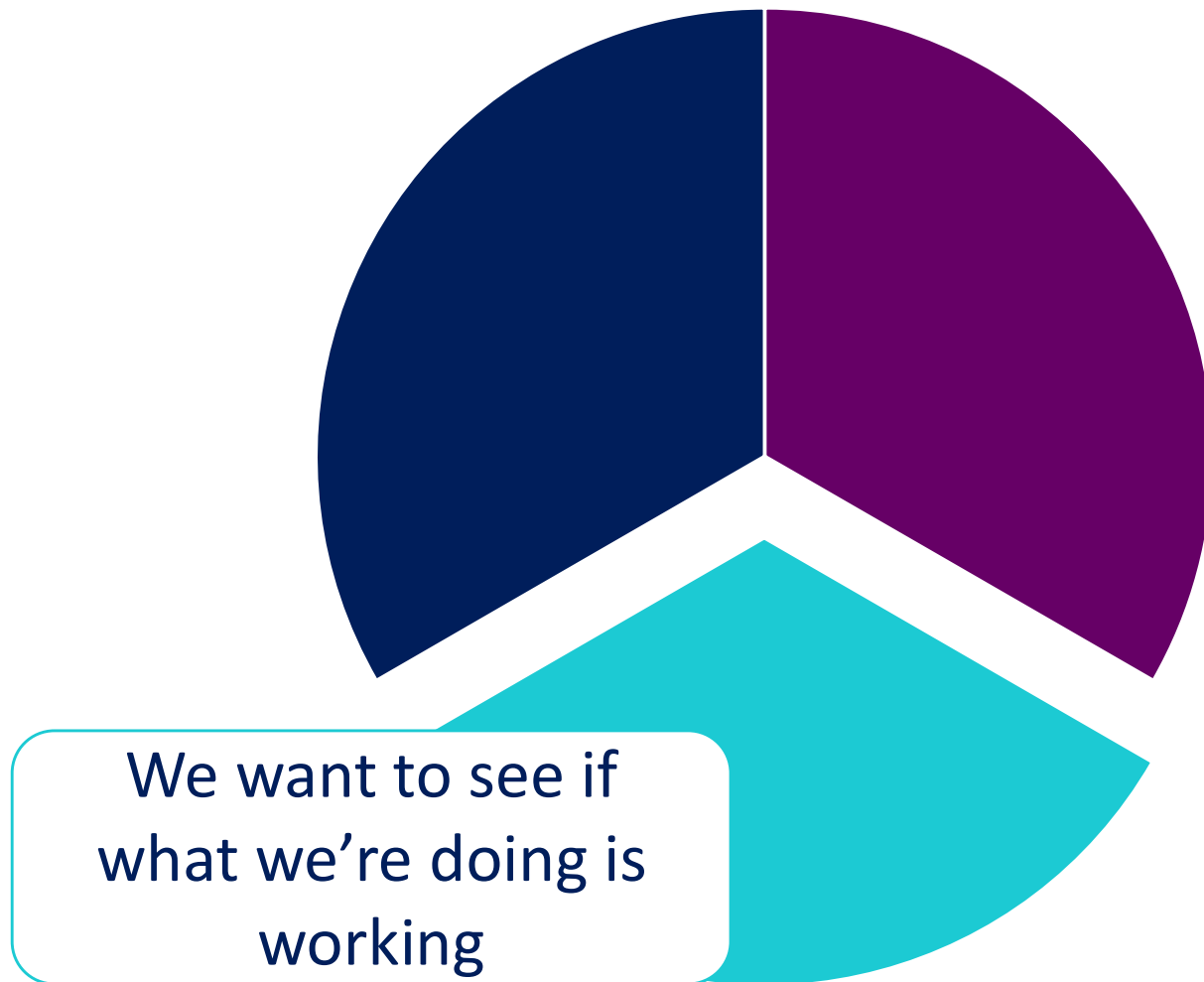
Three Main Reasons



WHY DO WE COLLECT DATA?

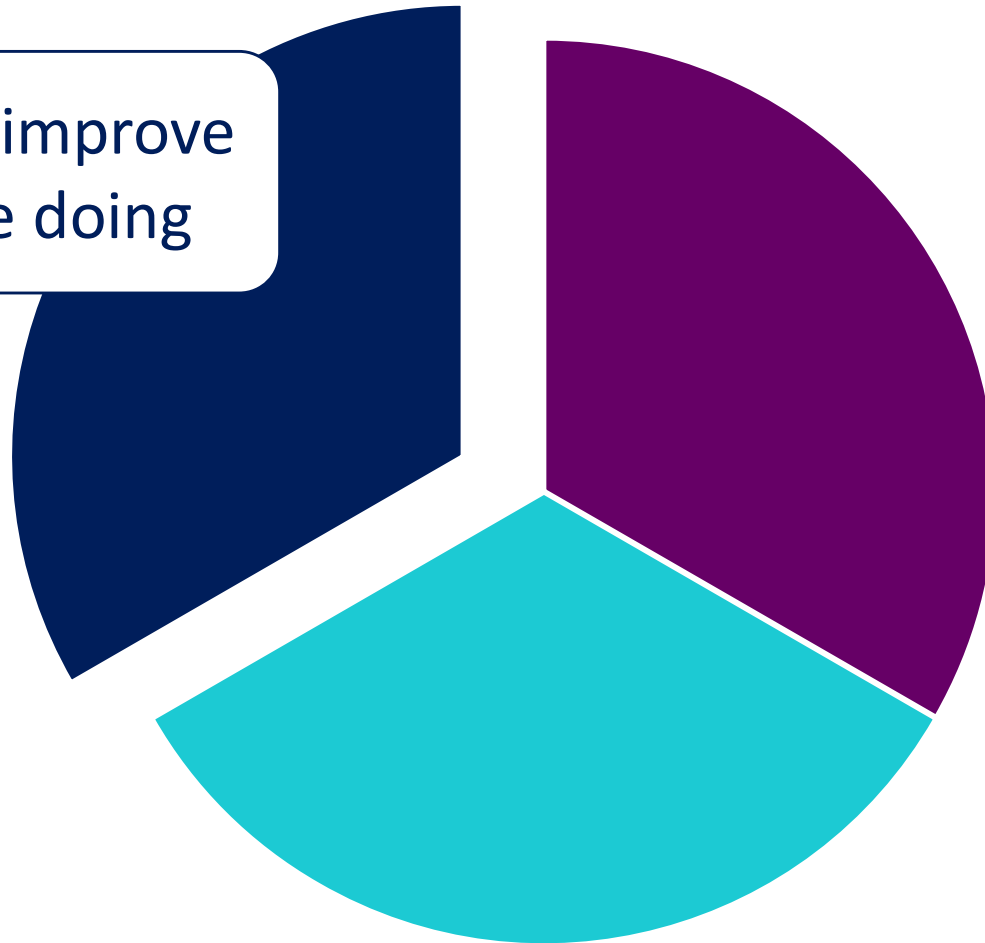


WHY DO WE COLLECT DATA?



WHY DO WE COLLECT DATA?

We want to improve
what we're doing



GOOD NEWS!

Some of the data you need to track participant progress...

is the *same data* you need to find out if what you are doing is working

...and some is the *same data* you need to find out how to improve your performance

And it's all data you need to be ready for outside evaluation!

WHAT DO WE COLLECT?

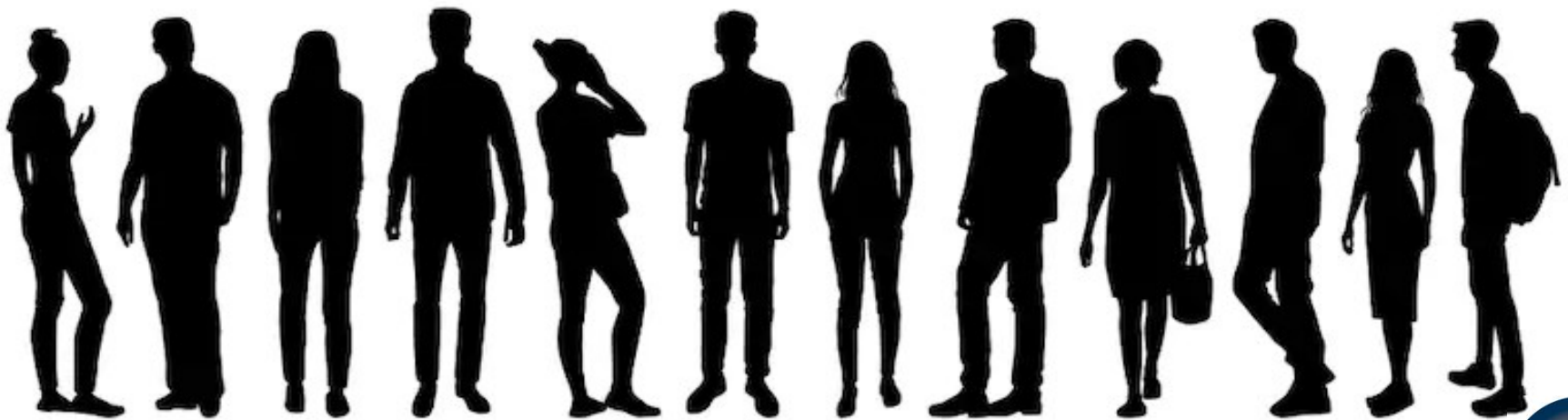
What *participants* are doing

What *you* are doing
(and any changes)



FIRST: COLLECT WHAT YOUR **PARTICIPANTS** ARE DOING

- Information about the activities you require of participants (many of these are what YOU are doing)
- Participant **attendance** at those activities



TYPICAL ACTIVITIES TO TRACK

Identifiers (activities *must* be connected to people)

- Court Hearings
- Drug Tests
- Incentives
- Sanctions
- Treatment
- Case management
- Supervision
- Peer Support

What else do you do?

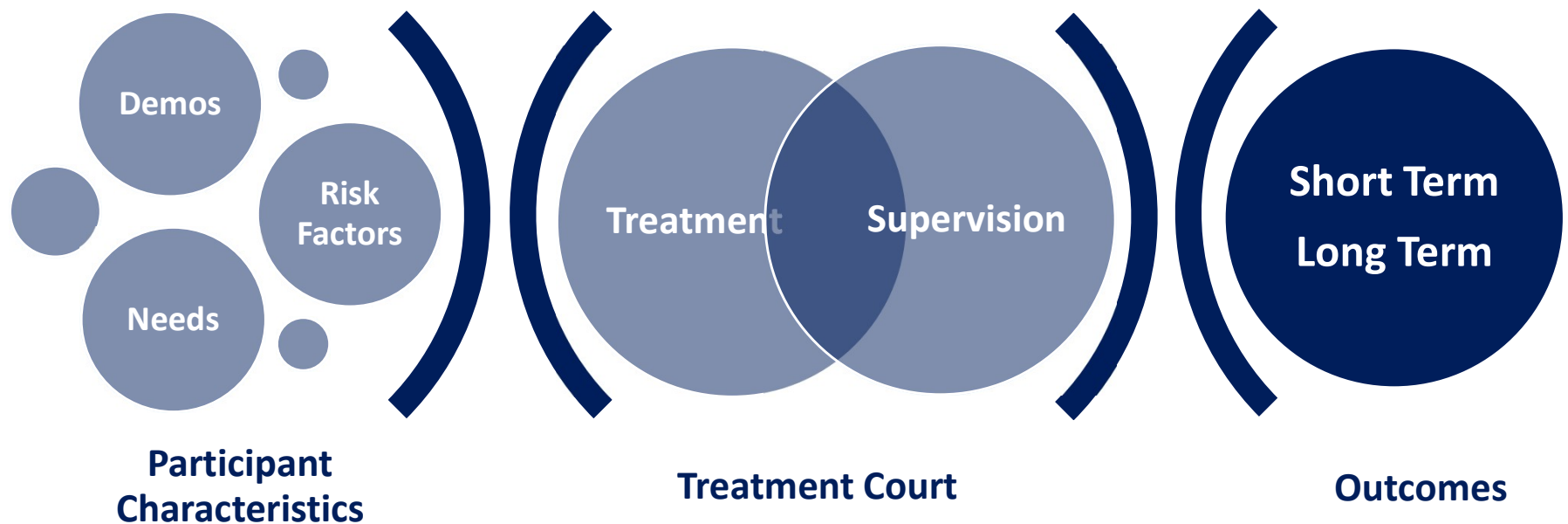


SPECIFIC DATA ELEMENTS TO COLLECT



Individual Level (for each participant)

DATA COLLECTION AND PROGRAM FLOW



KEY OUTCOMES TO MONITOR (IN-PROGRAM)

- What is the **graduation rate** from your program?
- What is the average **length of stay** in your program?
- What is the average **attendance rate** at court hearings for each participant?
- What is the average **number of appointments** (treatment, case management) for each participant?
 - What is the attendance rate at scheduled appointments?
- What is the percentage of positive **drug tests**?



WHO ARE YOUR PARTICIPANTS?

Collect Identifiers and Demographics

■ Name and other identifiers:

- SSN
- Drivers license number
- Court case numbers

■ Demographics

- DOB
- Race
- Gender

Why collect this data?

- To find and link individuals in other administrative data, like court records
- To assess service delivery and access

SERVICE DELIVERY

Are people from different subpopulations...

- ...**admitted** to and retained in the program in proportion to others?
- ...receiving **similar** types of **services** as and in proportion to others?
- ...receiving **incentives** and **sanctions** in proportion to others?
- ...**successfully completing** the program in proportion to others?
- ...achieving **other outcomes** in proportion to others?



WHO ARE YOUR PARTICIPANTS?

Collect Assessments and Characteristics

- Referral Information
- Risk and Need Assessments
(dates and results)
- Trauma Assessments
- Health and Pain Assessments
- Other characteristics at entry
 - Housing status
 - Employment status
 - Income
 - Family/Children
 - Child custody/visitation
 - Marital status
 - Other social indicators

Why collect this data?

- Understand participant needs, strengths, and “recovery capital” (match service to needs)
- Inform advocacy and education of referral sources
- Justify funding or support improvements

SOCIAL INDICATORS OVER TIME

Sample indicators

- Housing status
- Employment status
- Income
- Child custody/visitation
- Marital status
- Other social indicators

Collected at multiple timepoints:

- At program entry
- During program
- At program exit

Why collect this?

Measure whether participant outcomes have changed over the course of your program

“Did participants gain stable housing?”

“Are graduates employed at exit?”

Why collect this?

Review attendance patterns
for participant outcomes

*“Does consistent attendance,
or monthly appearances,
relate to graduation status or
recidivism?”*

*“Does attendance vary based
on presiding judge?”*

*“Do virtual hearings have
similar attendance rates?”*

COURT HEARINGS

Necessary Information:

- Dates of Hearings
- Virtual/In-Person
- Attendance
- Other Descriptors:
 - Judge presiding
 - Phase promotion
 - Incentives/Sanctions

DRUG TESTS

Necessary Information:

- Dates of *each* Drug Test
- Drug Test Type:
 - UA, EtG, PBT, oral swab, bracelet, patch, hair, blood, ignition interlock, etc.
- **Observation Method**
- Substances Tested
- Results of Drug Tests:
 - Negative
 - Positive (including refused, diluted, or no-show)
 - Substances found in positives

Why collect this?

- Measure % of positive drug tests, monitor use
- Review # or % of missed drug tests, stability

“Are common drugs being used?”

“Do graduates demonstrate required sobriety?”

INCENTIVES AND SANCTIONS

Why collect this?

- Track effectiveness of responses
- Measure the ratio of incentives to sanctions

“Does use of incentives relate to participants’ timely phase advancement?”

“How often do we use jail as a sanction and is it related (positively or negatively) to recidivism?”

Necessary Information:

- Behavior
 - Attended all appts, Missed UA
- Dates of Responses
- Response
 - Gift card, Writing assignment
- Response Type
 - Incentive, Sanction, Service Adjustment
- Duration (if applicable)
 - Jail Days (Entry/Exit Dates or # of Days), Community Service Hours



Poll

INCENTIVES AND SANCTIONS

What creative incentives do you use?

- a) Verbal Praise
- b) Gift Cards
- c) Raffle entries
- d) Certificates
- e) Passes to leave court early
- f) Being called first at the court review
- g) Fishbowl
- h) A Team

TREATMENT

Necessary Information:

- Dates of Treatment Sessions
(or Episode Start & End Dates)
- Virtual/In-Person
- Duration of Treatment
 - Could be days for inpatient/residential
 - Could be hours for outpatient appointments
- Type or modality
- Completion/Discharge Status
- Agency Providing Treatment





Why collect this?

- Measure assessed, referred, and received treatment by participants
- Review attendance or modality in relation to graduation status

“Are participants assessed as needing residential placed in this treatment modality? Do we have enough beds?”

“Is ABC Treatment better attended than XYZ?”

TREATMENT

Treatment Modalities:

- Inpatient/Residential
- Detox
- Individual Outpatient (SOP and IOP)
- Group Outpatient
- Medication Assisted Therapy (MAT)
- Assessment, Case Management Activities

PROGRAM STATUS

Necessary Information:

- Entry Date
- Phase Start Dates
(for each phase)
- Exit Date
- Status at Exit
 - Graduated
 - Unsuccessful (revoked,
discharged, etc.)
 - Transferred

Why collect this?

- Measure time in each phase and in program
- Review graduation rates
- Note when participants are most likely to drop out

“Are participants struggling to advance from any particular phase?”

RECIDIVISM

Why collect this?

- Review if participants are being rearrested during the program
- Measure recidivism post program entry or exit

“Are participants reducing criminal activities during participation?”

“Do graduates recidivate post program exit?”

New Arrests and Charges:

- Dates of arrest, case filings, convictions, incarcerations
- Level: Felony, misdemeanor, summary/other
- Charge type/description
 - Drug
 - Property/theft
 - Violent/person
 - Other

Why collect this?

- Determine service needs for participants
- Measure assessed, referred, and received services by participant
- Review specific services in relation to outcomes

“Do participants graduate more often when offered virtual attendance options?”

“Do participants with peer mentors graduate sooner?”

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Peer support activities,
case management,
supervision

Necessary Information:

- Dates of activity
- Type of activity
- Attendance
- Virtual/In-Person



Poll

OTHER ACTIVITIES

What about creative services, skill development, or opportunities?

- a) Community recovery meetings (e.g., NA, Smart Recovery)
- b) Peer mentor/Peer support specialist
- c) Sober group activities in the community (e.g., bowling, fishing)
- d) Alumni group
- e) Other activities

SELF-REPORT (DATA GATHERED FROM PARTICIPANTS)

Indicators of progress:

- Do they have a safe place to live?
- Do they have an income?
- Do they have children at home?
- Are they attending peer support groups?
- Are they receiving quality treatment?

Record the answers to these questions with a date (at entry, during, and at exit)

*Some of this information should also be gathered from other sources for confirmation



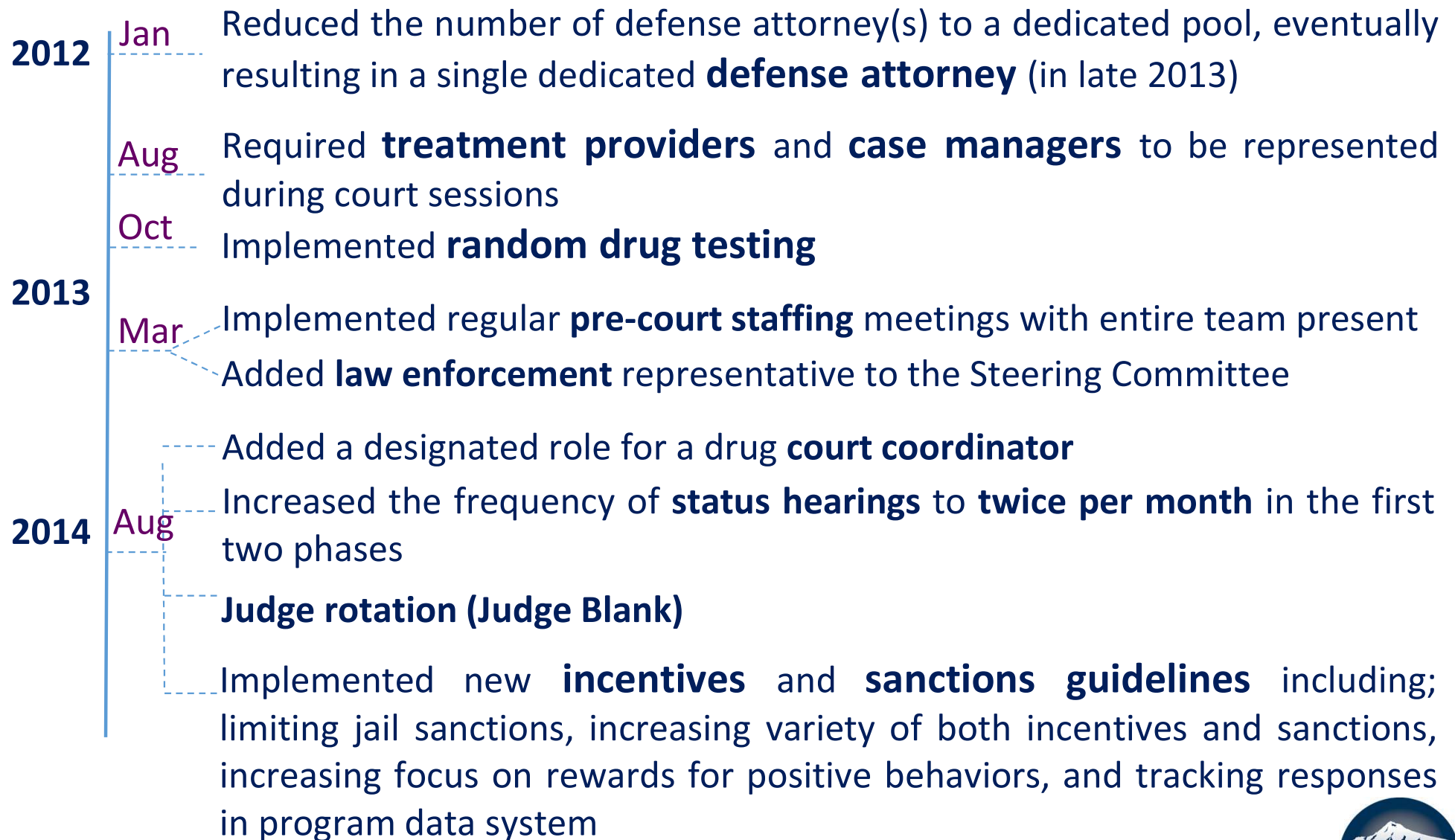
TRACK WHAT **YOU'RE** DOING

What changes have you made in the last year or two?

- New Judge or team member (non-judge)
- Drug testing
- Responses to participant behavior (e.g., new incentives or sanctions)
- Changed eligibility requirements
- Moved to virtual/in-person staffings or hearings



SAMPLE TIMELINE OF CHANGES IN POLICY AND PRACTICE



LOOK AT YOUR PROGRAM OPERATIONS. ARE YOU FOLLOWING BEST PRACTICES?

- Review the best practice standards and compare what you're doing to the standards
- Take a best practice assessment - NDCI offers an online self-assessment for ATCs for free (the "BeST")

<https://allrise.org/trainings/best-assessment-tool/>

LOOK AT YOUR PROGRAM OPERATIONS. ARE YOU FOLLOWING BEST PRACTICES?

Best Practices by Key Component - Quick Review:

The statistics in this summary table indicate the percent of best practices (BPs) met within each component. The intention is to help identify which components need additional focus and support. Note, some practices are easier to implement than others (e.g., require less time or fewer resources) and some practices are restricted by local and state policies. This summary is not intended as a score or a grade indicating the quality of your program, but rather a navigational tool to aid in guiding your attention in the report to where you can celebrate best practices met and where you may require more assistance.

KC1. Team Collaboration		70%
KC2. Public Safety & Due Process		100%
KC3. Participant Eligibility & Program Entry		90%
KC4a. Treatment Practices		90%
KC4b. Treatment & Auxiliary Services		71%
KC5. Drug Testing		88%
KC6. Responses to Participant Behavior		50%
KC7. Role of the Judge		80%
KC8. Monitoring & Evaluation		60%
KC9. Team Training		0%
KC10. Program Support and Sustainability		0%

KC Review Key:



Meeting most practices



In progress, room for improvement



Priority area for discussion



WHAT SHOULD WE DO WITH ALL THIS DATA?

IS OUR PROGRAM WORKING?

WHAT SHOULD WE DO TO IMPROVE?



@marketoonist.com

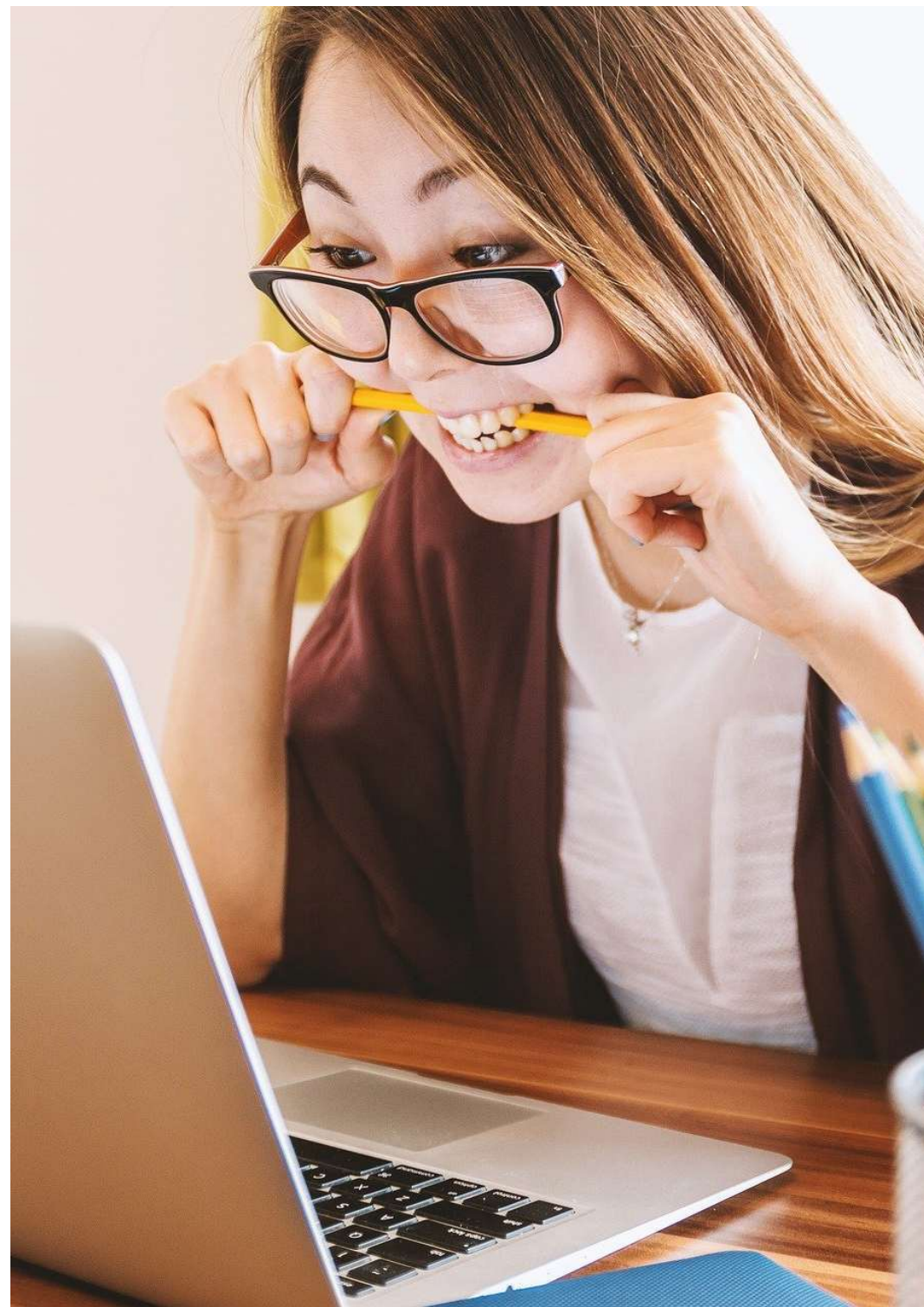
Participant & Program Performance Measures

Poll

Calculations

Do you review your data and calculate???

- a) Graduation rates
- b) Retention rates
- c) Attendance rates at treatment meetings
- d) Rates of missed drug tests
- e) Recidivism rates





**WHAT
RESOURCES ARE
AVAILABLE FOR
COLLECTING
DATA AND
MONITORING
YOUR
PARTICIPANTS?**

STRATEGIES FOR DATA COLLECTION & ANALYSIS

- If you have a case management system, it may calculate some of these metrics for you - or
 - Ask your IT department or database vendors to create automated reports with these metrics
 - If not, see if you can download the data into a spreadsheet
- If you don't have a database, you can use a spreadsheet, like Excel and calculate some basic statistics
 - Simple calculations (e.g., averages, sums)
 - Pivot Tables and Pivot Charts
 - Graphs
 - Dashboards (advanced)

NPC DASHBOARD

Key Features

- Available for FREE to adult treatment courts through funding from BJA & NDCI
- Tracks key program performance metrics
- Updates in real-time so you can stay up to speed on your program's trends and performance
- Visual representation of program progress can help you more easily understand your progress
- Data validation and drop-downs to make data entry easier



NPC DASHBOARD

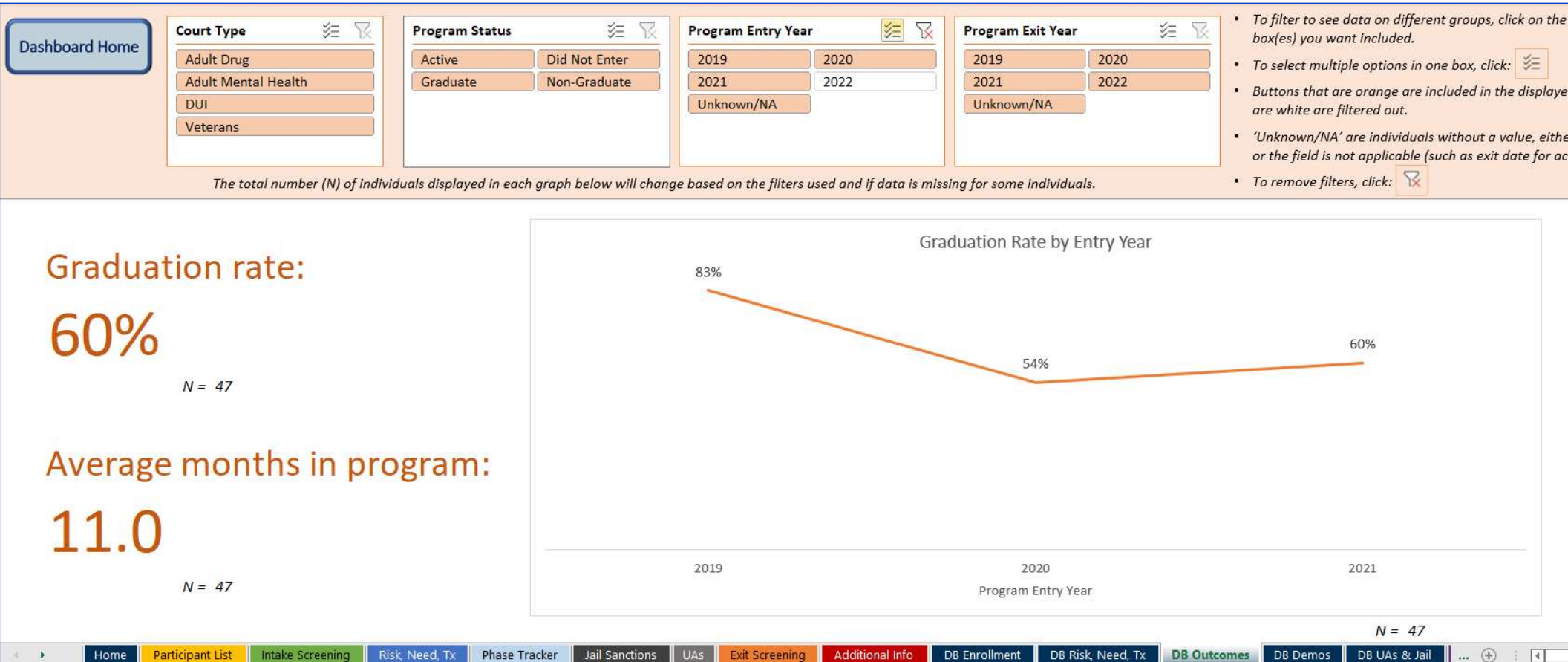
Benefits

- Allows for quick program performance review and adjustments
- Useful for status reports for staffing meetings, evaluations, and funding proposals
- Simplifies BJA reporting

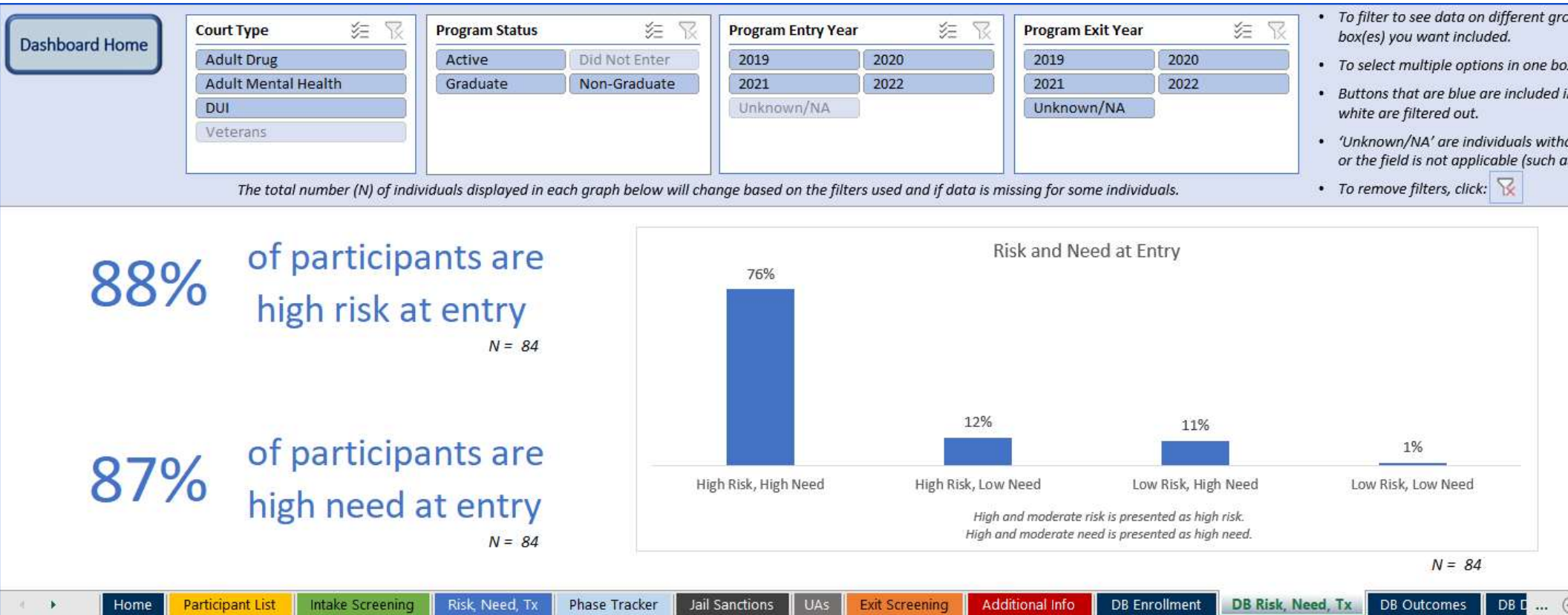
Disclaimers

- Not a case management system
- Does not replace a full evaluation
 - Longer-term outcomes/costs
 - Matched comparison

NPC DASHBOARD SAMPLE



NPC DASHBOARD SAMPLE



NPC DASHBOARD

- If you do not currently have a web-based case management system, you may request the Excel dashboard

Email

dashboard@NPCresearch.com

to request the dashboard



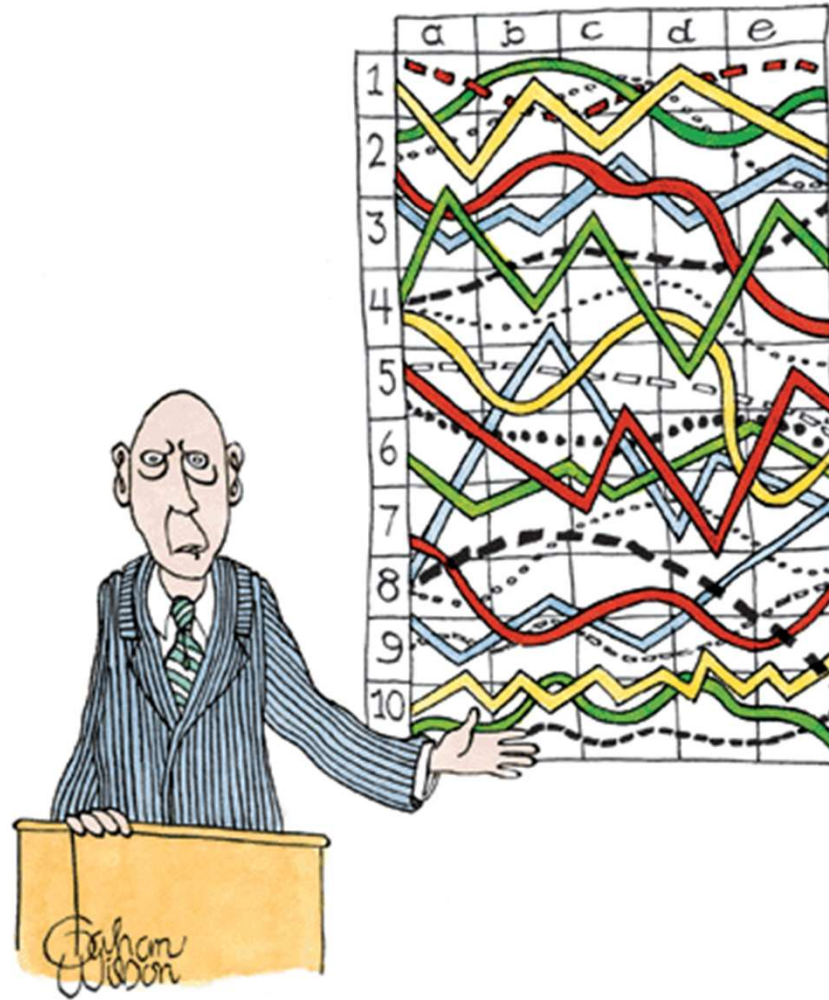
RESOURCES & FUNDING

- Local funding
 - Foundations and non-profits
 - County grants
 - State grants
 - Legislature
- Federal funding



QUESTIONS or COMMENTS?

Marny Rivera
rivera@npcresearch.com



"I'll pause for a moment so you can let this information sink in."



THANK YOU

WWW.NPCRESEARCH.COM

APPENDIX

Using your data to measure short-term indicators, long-term indicators, change over time, and impacts of your program

SHORT TERM PROGRESS INDICATORS (WEEKS)

For individual participants, progress, and program performance:

- What is the average number of treatment sessions attended or missed by each participant per week?
- What is the average number of treatment and case management appointments attended and missed by each participant?
 - What percentage of participants attend case manager (CM) appointments consistently?
 - Is that number different for different CMs?
- What is the percentage of positive drug tests?

MID AND LONG-TERM PROGRESS INDICATORS (MONTHS TO YEARS)

Mostly program performance:

During the program and/or at entry and exit:

- What is your participant graduation/commencement rate?
- What percent of participants drop out/are terminated in each phase? (Is there a phase when the most participants tend to drop out?)
- Do average risk and need scores decrease over time?
- What percent of participants have safe and sober housing?
- What percent of participants are employed or in school?
- What percent of participants are engaged with a peer mentor? Are those participants more likely to graduate?



HOW TO EXAMINE YOUR PROGRAM PROGRESS INDICATORS OVER TIME

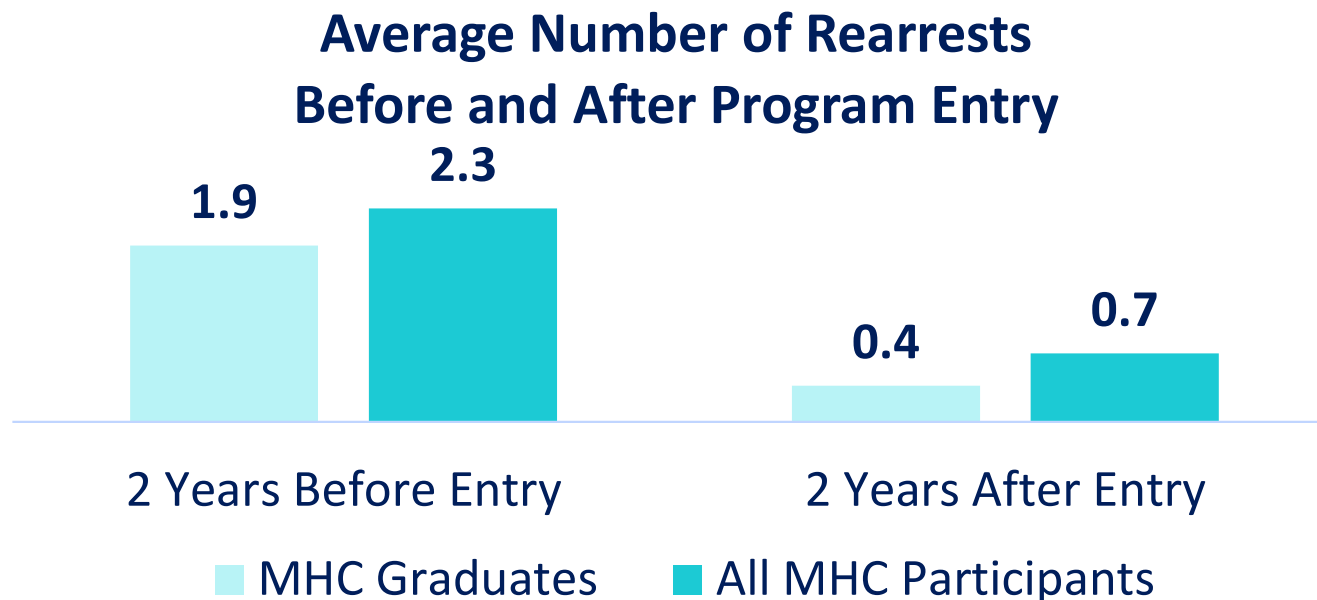
- Calculate the attendance rates (percent of events attended)
- Calculate the average number of events attended/missed per time period (e.g., week/month)
- Compare the rates before and after policy changes

Outpatient Treatment Attendance Rate



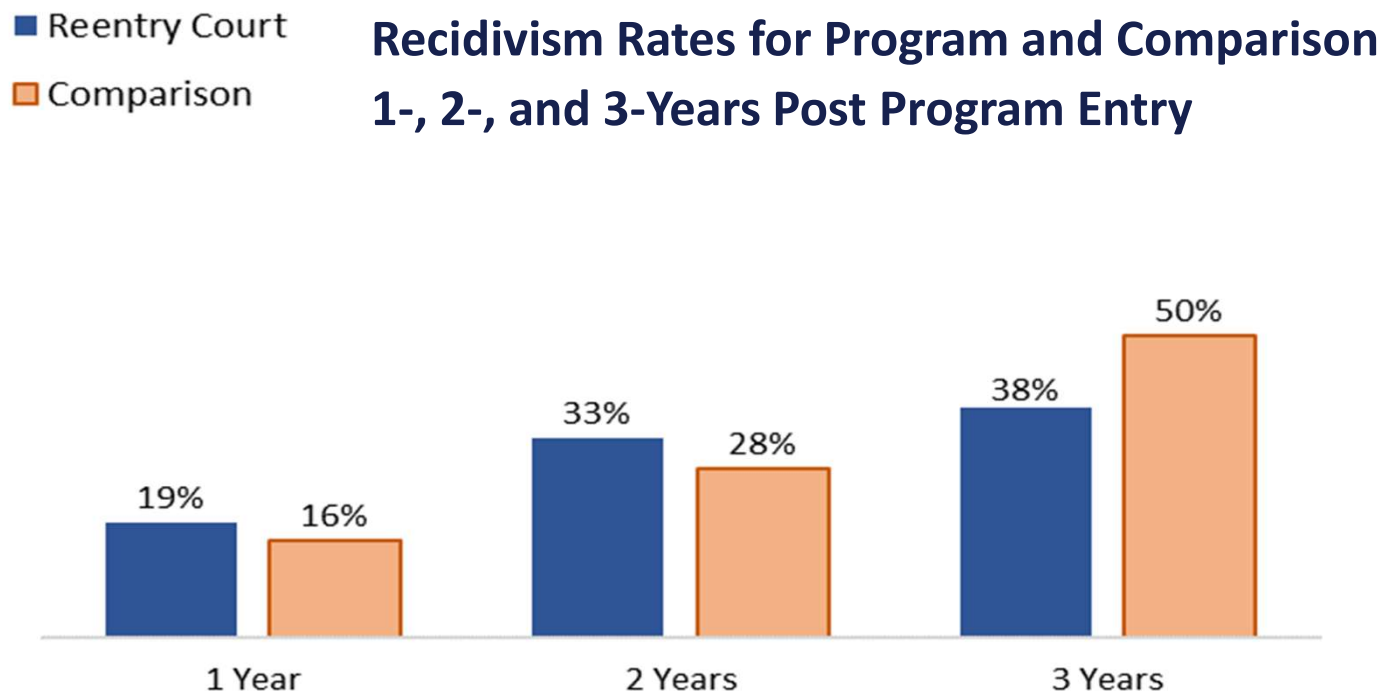
CALCULATING OUTCOMES/IMPACT

- Calculate average number of rearrests per person or recidivism rates (number of participants arrested out of the total number of participants)
- Look at recidivism rates in participants over time (e.g., before and after program entry)



CALCULATING PROGRAM EFFECTIVENESS OR IMPACT

- Compare recidivism rates over time to similar individuals who do not participate in the program (a comparison group)



***Often need research expertise (internal or external evaluator)**

TREATMENT COURT DATA TO TRACK



Identifiers and Demographics

- Name:
- Social security number
- Driver's license number
- Court case numbers
- Identifiers for children
- Link between children and parents
- Demographics for parents and children:
 - Date of birth
 - Race/ethnicity
 - Gender



Assessments and Characteristics

- Referral information
- Assessment results for parents and children:
 - Risk and need assessments (dates and results)
 - Trauma assessments
 - Health and pain assessments
- Employment status
- Education level
- Income
- Housing status
- Child custody/visitation
- Marital status
- Other social indicators



Court Hearings

- Dates of hearings
- Virtual/in-person
- Attendance
- Other descriptors:
 - Judge presiding
 - Phase promotion
 - Incentives/sanctions



Drug Tests

- Dates of EACH drug test
- Drug test type:
 - UA, EtG, PBT, oral swab, bracelet, patch, hair, blood, ignition interlock, etc.
- Observation method
- Substances tested
- Results of drug tests:
 - Negative
 - Positive (including refused, diluted, or no-show)



Incentives and Sanctions

- Behavior:
 - e.g., 100% attendance, missed UA
- Dates of responses
- Response:
 - e.g., gift card, writing assignment
- Response type:
 - Incentive, sanction, service adjustment
- Duration (if applicable):
 - e.g., Jail days (Entry/exit dates or # of days), community service hours



Treatment

- Dates and type of treatment sessions for parents and children (or episode start & end dates)
- Virtual/in-person
- Family-focused services & training (e.g., parenting classes, family therapy)
- Duration of treatment:
 - Could be days for inpatient/residential
 - Could be hours for outpatient appointments



Program Status

- Entry date
- Phase start dates (for each phase)
- Exit date
- Status at exit:
 - Graduated
 - Unsuccessful discharge (terminated)
 - Transferred



Child Welfare and Recidivism Information

- Child custody & visitation info/details
- Family case plans
- Placement info: date of removal, dates of all placements, types of placements
- Disposition (TPR, Reunification dates)
- Child maltreatment info
- Dates of arrest, case filings, or convictions
- Charge type/description
- Felony/misdemeanor



Other Activities

- Peer support, case management, supervision, etc.
- Type or modality of service
 - Progress/Completion/discharge status
 - Agency providing treatment

General data to collect for all activities and services:

- Dates of activity
- Type of activity
- Attendance
- Virtual/in-person