

Treatment Alternatives and Diversion (TAD): 2014 Participant Outcomes and Cost-Benefit Report

July 2014

*Prepared for the Legislative Council Study Committee on
Problem-Solving Courts, Alternatives, and Diversions*

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Introduction

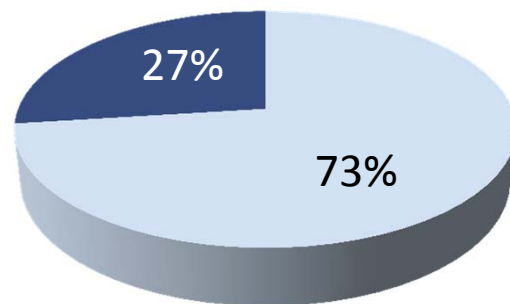
- **OJA/DOJ, DOC, and DHS have collaborated to implement TAD since program start in 2006, and the Director of State Courts Office was added as an additional partner agency last year**
- **The UW Population Health Institute has partnered with these agencies since 2006 to assist with the implementation and evaluation of TAD**
 - **Kit Van Stelle and Janae Goodrich have been the primary evaluation staff, along with the consultation of other UW cost-benefit and research staff and faculty as needed over the years (0.9 FTE annually)**

Today's presentation will focus on the results of the recently updated outcomes and cost-benefit analysis encompassing 7 years of TAD activity across 9 TAD counties

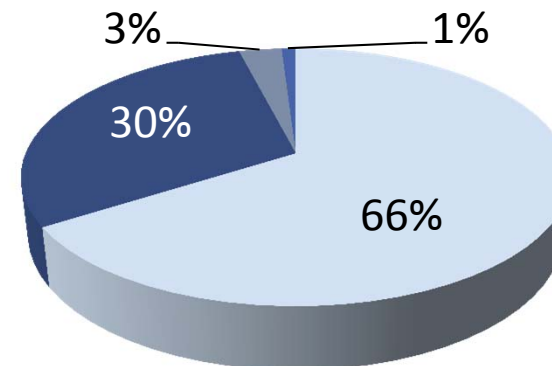
Overview of Analysis and Report

- **Description of 3,093 admissions and 2,895 discharges between 2007-2013 for nine TAD sites**
 - **Data from TAD sites (4 treatment courts and 5 diversion projects) for participant information and services received, CCAP for new offense, DOC administrative data systems for state prison incarceration, COMPAS risk assessment data system, Social Security Death Index**
 - **Outcomes and cost-benefit analysis**
- **Results**
 - **Examination of primary outcome indicators of program graduation rates, incarceration averted, and new convictions and incarceration after discharge**
 - **Cost-benefit analyses**
 - **Some special focus analysis of OWI participants, women, alternative to revocation (ATR) of probation/parole admissions, and opiate users**
- **Recommendations for Continued Program Success**

TAD Gender and Race of Admissions



■ Male ■ Female

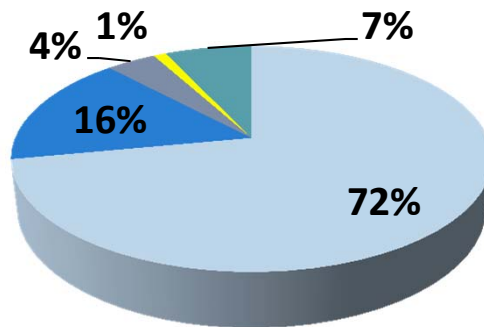


■ Caucasian ■ African American
■ Native American ■ Asian/Other

N = 3,093

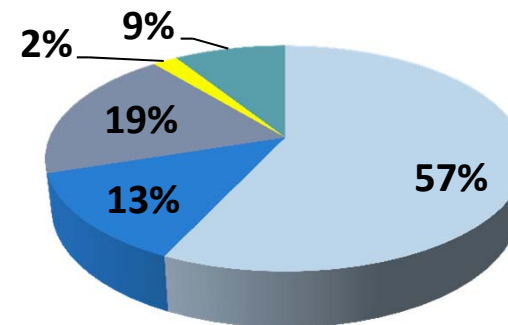
Type of Criminal Offense at TAD Admission

Treatment Courts



- drug offense
- property/fraud
- OWI
- criminal damage/endangerer
- other

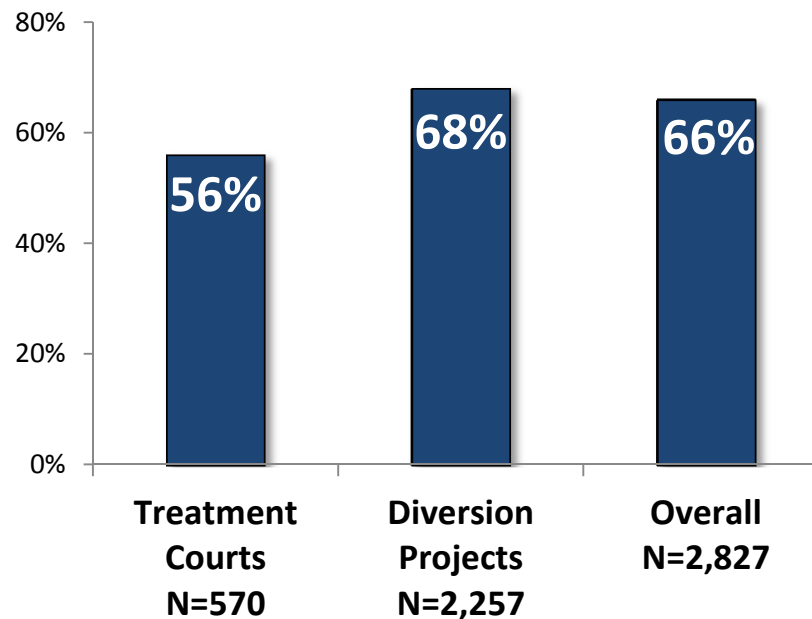
Diversion Projects



- drug offense
- property/fraud
- OWI
- criminal damage/endangerer
- other

Felony Offense at TAD Admission:
Treatment Courts = 88%
Diversion Projects = 70%

TAD Graduation/Completion Rates



- Overall graduation rate of 66%
- Rates ranged between 51% and 79% across 9 TAD sites

Incarceration Averted

Incarceration days averted during 7 years for 9 counties

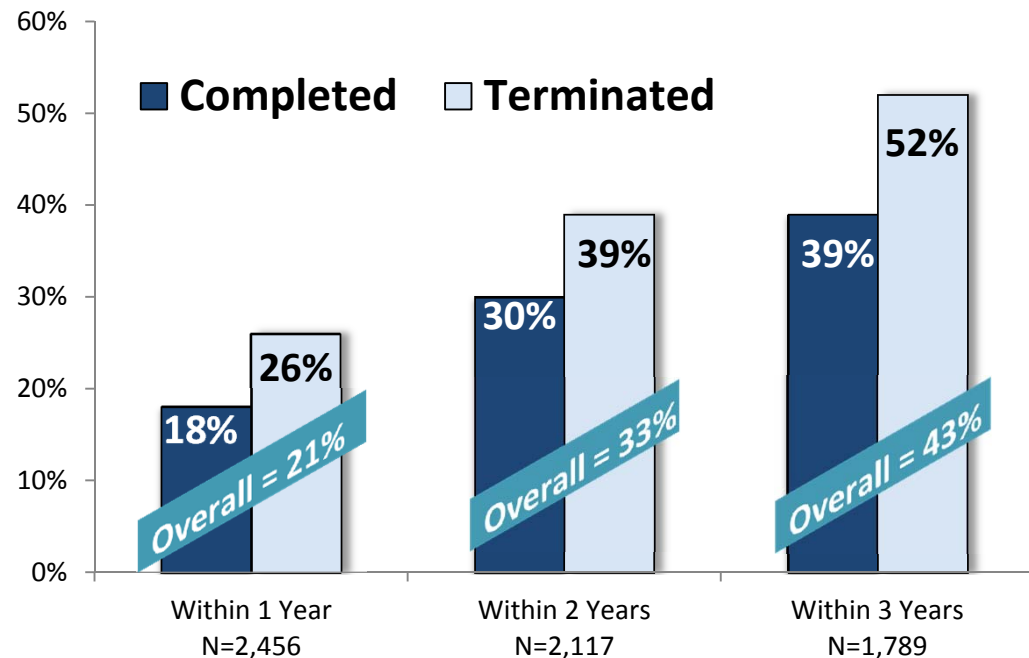


231,533 Total Days Averted

TAD participation successfully impacts subsequent criminal convictions

Overall, 21% of TAD discharges committed a new offense within one year after their program discharge for which they were later convicted, 33% within two years, and 43% within three years.

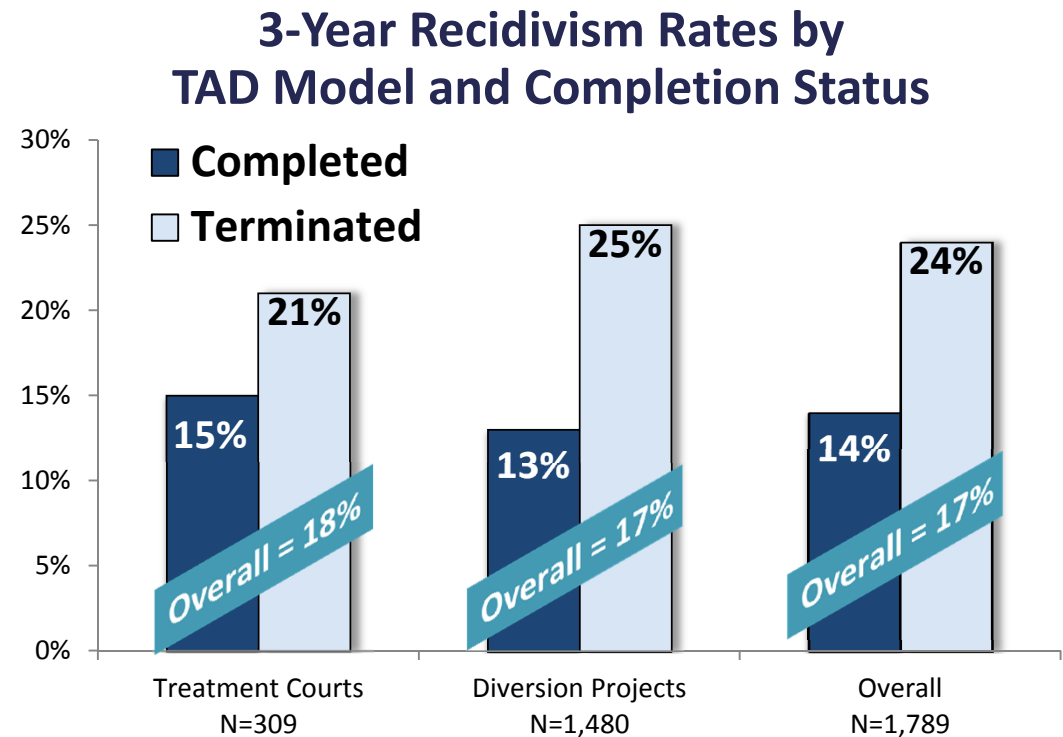
TAD completers were less likely than those terminated to be convicted of a new offense within 3 years after program discharge.



TAD Participation Successfully Impacts 3-Year Recidivism Rates

Defined as a new offense within 3 years of TAD discharge that resulted in a sentence of either DOC probation or prison,
83% of TAD participants did not recidivate within 3 years.

Overall, TAD three-year recidivism rates are lower than state and county-level recidivism averages for prison release and community supervision populations.



**Includes only TAD participants who were at least three years post-discharge from TAD projects*

TAD Cost-Benefit Analysis Results

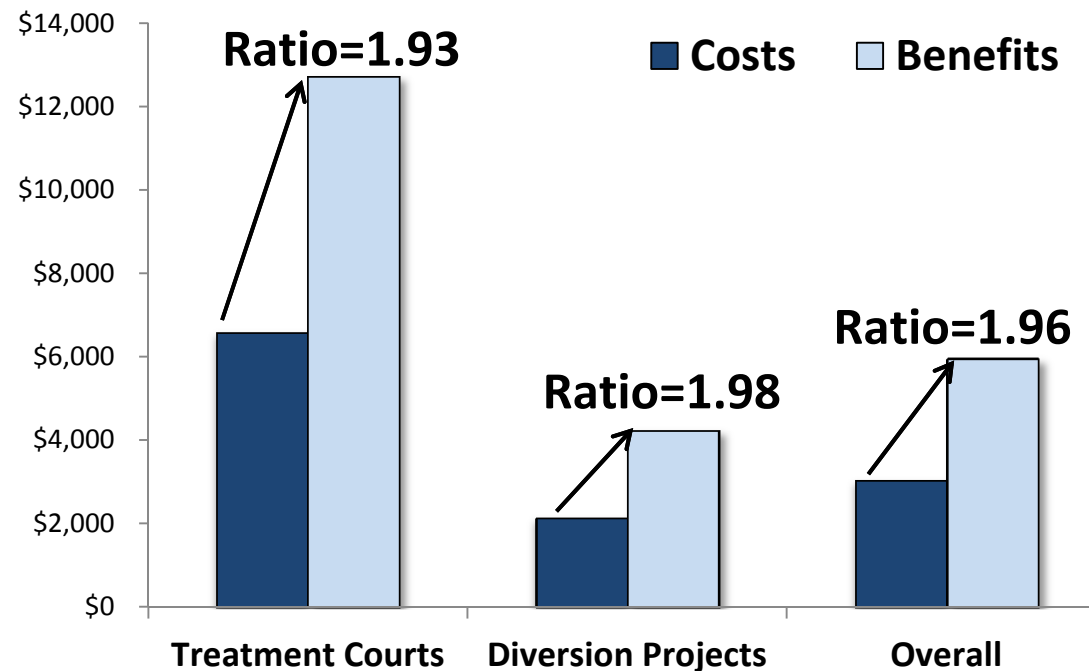
Based on data from seven TAD projects for participants served between 2007-2013.....

Cost-benefit analysis confirms that TAD continues to be a cost-effective option for taxpayers.

Every \$1.00 invested in TAD yields benefits of \$1.96 to the criminal justice system through averted incarceration and reduced crime.

Updated TAD Benefit-Cost Ratios

**TAD treatment courts yield benefits of \$1.93 for every \$1.00 invested.
TAD diversion projects yield benefits of \$1.98 for every \$1.00 invested.**

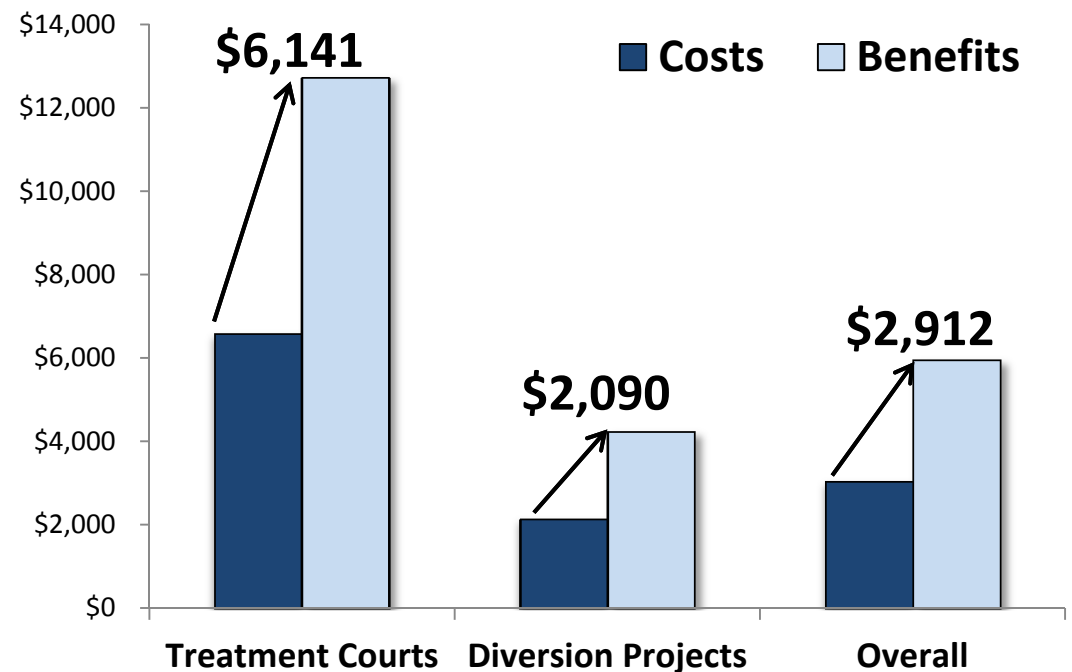


**Costs and benefits per TAD discharge.*

Net Benefits of TAD Projects

Benefit-cost ratios are a relative measure of an investment's benefits and cost. Valid analysis techniques endorse also considering "net benefits" (program benefits minus program costs) to provide a more complete picture of the relationship between costs and benefits, and are often more informative for decision-making.

TAD treatment courts had higher project costs than diversion projects due to their longer length, greater treatment intensity, higher rates of drug testing, and more intensive participant monitoring. Although TAD treatment courts cost more to operate, they yield potentially larger treatment success rates and long-term benefits, and result in larger net benefits to the criminal justice system than diversion projects.



**Costs and benefits per TAD discharge*

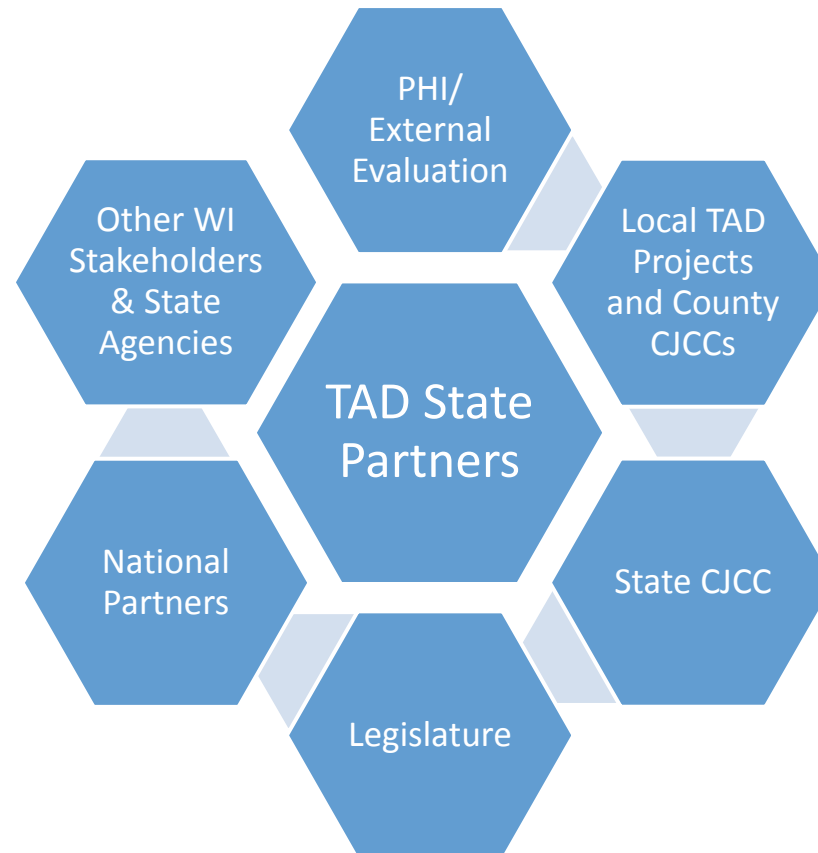
Comparing TAD Net Benefits and Benefit-Cost Ratios to Other Evaluation Research Efforts

	Net Benefits Per Participant	BC Ratio
TAD Treatment Courts	\$6,141	1.93
Washington State (WSIPP, 2013)	\$1,115	1.26
St. Louis (King & Pasqueralle , 2009)	\$2,600	1.33
Maryland (Crumpton et al., 2003)	\$3,791	1.36
Iowa (Iowa Department of Corrections, 2012)±	\$3,794	5.11
Kentucky (Logan, 2004)	\$5,446	2.71
National – 29 sites in 6 states (Rossman, 2011)	\$6,533	1.92
Oregon (Carey & Waller, 2011)	\$7,022	2.41
Washington State (Aos et al., 2011)	\$7,651	2.87
National (Bhati, 2008)	\$11,275	2.21
Virginia (Cheesman et al., 2012)	\$19,234	N/A
TAD Diversion Projects	\$2,090	1.98
District of Columbia (Downey et al., 2012)α	\$1,970	N/A
California (Anglin et al., 2013)	\$2,317	N/A
New York (Waller et al., 2013)	\$5,144	2.00
New York (Zarkin et al., 2005)	N/A	2.17

Recommendations for Continued Success

1) Collaboration is Critical. Continue the historical collaboration among local, county, state, and national partners that has been the foundation of TAD's success and the primary stimulus behind the recent expansion.

The collaboration should include joint decision-making and information-sharing related to program implementation based on evidence-based practices, program focus, data, and program improvement.



Recommendations for Continued Success (continued)

- 2) The **TAD Advisory Committee** has been vital to the success of TAD, and this multi-disciplinary group should continue to meet regularly to provide guidance on TAD.
- 3) **Collaboratively develop an integrated web-based data system** for the collection of participant-level data from Wisconsin projects focusing on diversion and alternatives to incarceration. The Department of Justice should solicit input from key stakeholders (including local TAD staff) during the development, pilot testing, and implementation of the system to assure fidelity to evidence-based practices. Ongoing data quality monitoring should occur to ensure data accuracy and integrity. The data should then be used to provide frequent program improvement feedback to local sites, and can be used for program evaluation and meeting statutory reporting requirements.

Recommendations for Continued Success (continued)

4) **Administrative and Evaluation Support During Expansion is Critical.**

Legislative support both for administrative functions within DOJ and for ongoing evaluation of the TAD Program is critical to the continued success of TAD, particularly during times of expansion, as:

- (a) new projects require extensive technical support to assure fidelity to evidence-based practices,
- (b) all projects need ongoing assistance with data collection, and
- (c) impartial monitoring of progress and outcomes is essential to document effectiveness.

For Committee Consideration.....

- Continuation of the collaborative, multi-agency approach to TAD implementation that has worked so effectively to date.
- Support for the continuation of the administration and evaluation of TAD that includes (a) substantive technical support and monitoring for the expansion sites, (b) program support for all TAD sites that includes frequent quality improvement feedback, and (c) the development of an integrated data system based on evidence-based practices and performance measures.
- Modification of the TAD eligibility criteria defined in the statute to eliminate the exclusionary criteria related to the existence of a past violent offense. Elimination of this language could allow TAD projects to make admission decisions based on an individual's current level of criminal risk and their need for treatment, rather than based on their offense history. The current language prohibits TAD projects from admitting those with any past assaultive or weapons offense and limits the number of people who could ultimately benefit from TAD treatment and monitoring.

Discussion and Questions

Contact Kit Van Stelle with inquiries at krvanste@wisc.edu

Full report will be available on the DOJ website and at <http://uwphi.pophealth.wisc.edu/about/staff/van-stelle-kit.htm>