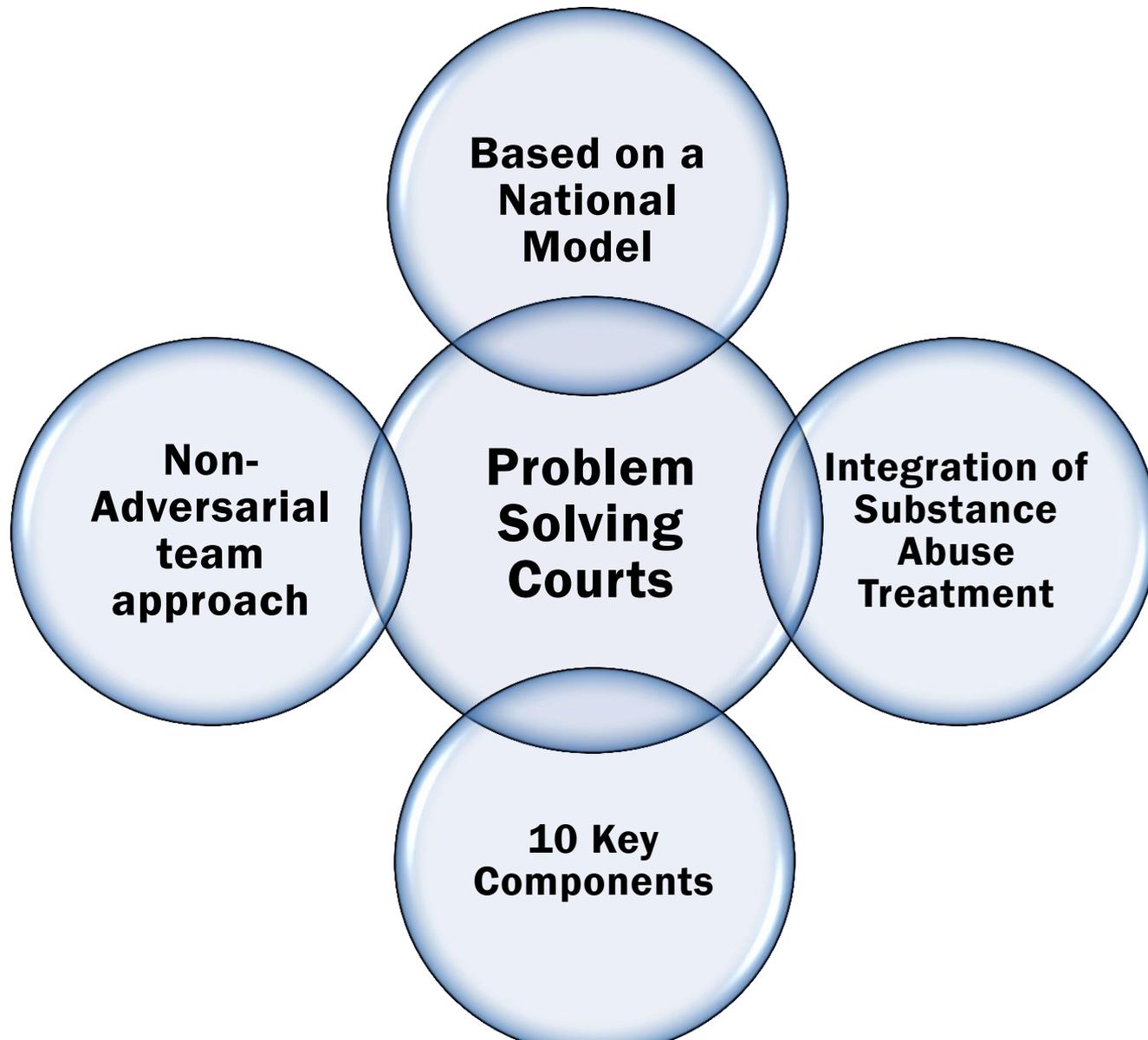


Colorado Problem Solving Courts

Presented By Brenidy A. Rice, MPA



What is a Problem Solving Court



Meet Jane

- **First arrested at age 14**
- **Convicted of possession four years ago**
- **Sentenced to probation three different times**
- **Unemployed for the year before entering into drug court**
- **3 children; none in her custody because of her drug use**



Meet Jane Continued



- **Victim of physical abuse**
- **Diagnosed with bipolar but not taking medication**
- **Injecting meth for the past 14 years**
- **Previously served a year in prison for other convictions**
- **Currently facing another probation revocation**



- **Jane's PO identifies her as a candidate for drug court**
- **PO submits application**
- **Defense attorney talks to Jane about the pros and cons of entering into drug court**





- **Jane reluctantly decides to try drug court**
- **Re-sentenced to drug court**
- **Meets treatment provider at hearing and sets appointment for evaluation**
- **Meets drug court PO and schedules appointment**



Standard Court Process

Process is designed to be identical for all equally accused persons



Punishment is mandated to be based on the crime



The defendant's family is rarely considered in this process

Drug Court

The defendant is central to the process



Treatment is individualized



Defendant's family is considered in treatment decisions



Charting the Course



- **Jane's substance evaluation results:**
 - Enhanced outpatient treatment
 - A mental health and medication eval to address previous bi-polar diagnosis
 - Treatment to address past trauma
- **Given referrals and resources**



Accountability



- **Jane is required to attend weekly court hearings and probation visits**
- **Comply with random drug testing**
 - **Urinalysis up to 3 times a week**
 - **Could require other types of monitoring**



- **Jane starts treatment and is compliant first couple weeks but misses some appointments**
- **Still using but is showing up to most appointments and appears in court for her review hearing**

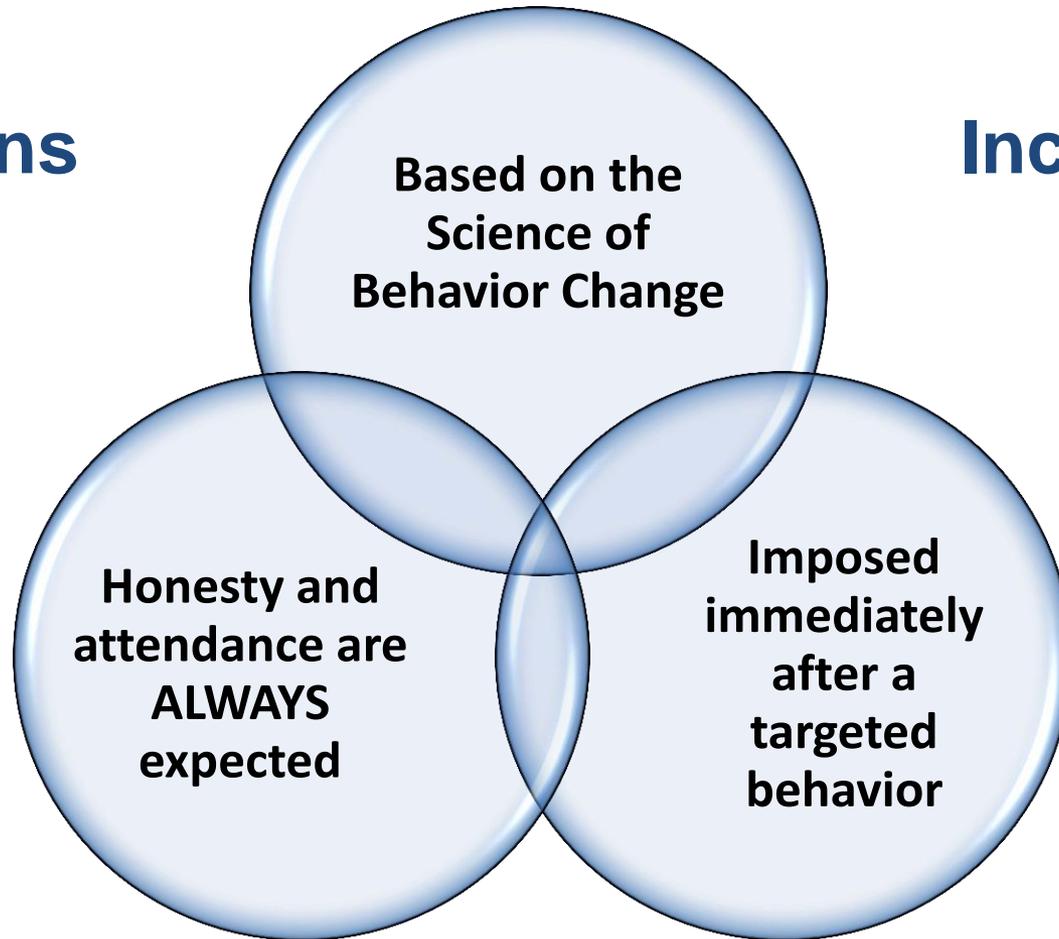


- **Defense Council and Prosecutor are members of the drug court team**
- **Work together to reduce litigation**
- **Prosecutor balances need for community safety with the recovery process**
- **Defense attorney balances protecting individual rights with the recovery process**



Sanctions

Incentives



Why a Drug Court?

- **More people are serving prison terms for **drug offenses** than any other type of crime¹**
- **2013 DOC reported **77 %** of prison population had substance use issues**
- **Felony drug filings have increased **76%** since 2013**

¹Przybylski, Roger. (2008 February) *What Works: Effective Recidivism Reduction and Risk-Focused Prevention Programs*, prepared for the Colorado Division of Criminal Justice and the Colorado Department of Public Safety

Meta Analyses

Compiled by Doug Marlow, J.D., PhD of the National Association of Drug Court Professionals

Citation	Institute	Crime Reduced on average
Wilson et al. (2006)	Campbell Collaborative	14 to 26%
Latimer et al. (2006)	Canada Dept. of Justice	14%
Shaffer (2006)	University of Nevada	9%
Lowenkamp et al. (2005)	University of Cincinnati	8%
Aos et al. (2006)	Washington State Inst. For Public Policy	8%

Cost Effectiveness

Compiled by Doug Marlow, J.D., PhD of the National Association of Drug Court Professionals

Citation	Avg. Benefit per \$1 invested	Avg. Cost savings Per Client
Loman (2004)	\$2.80 to \$6.32	\$2,615 to \$7,707
Finigan et al. (2007)	\$2.63	\$11,000
Carey et al.	\$3.50	\$6,744 to \$12, 218
Barnoski & Aos (2003)	\$1.74	\$2, 888
Aos et al. (2006)	N/A	\$4, 767
Bhati et al. (2008)	\$2.21	N/A

In other words...

We can slow the Revolving Door



Hold individuals personally accountable



Save taxpayer's money



Give participants the opportunity to become contributing members to our community

Jane: Recovery of the whole person

- **Graduated program in 15 months**
- **410 days of sobriety**
- **No new law violations**
- **Employed for the last 10 months at the same job**
- **Attending college for associates degree**
- **Building a relationship with her children**
- **Getting mental health treatment and taking medication**







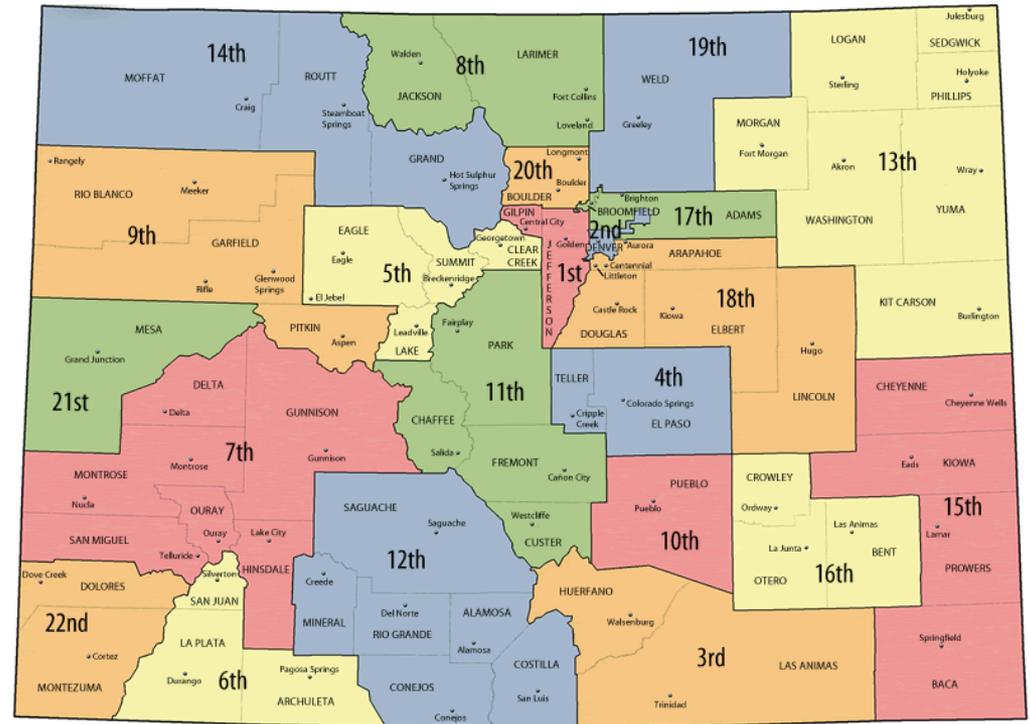
Problem Solving Court State Profile

➤ **80 Problem Solving Courts**

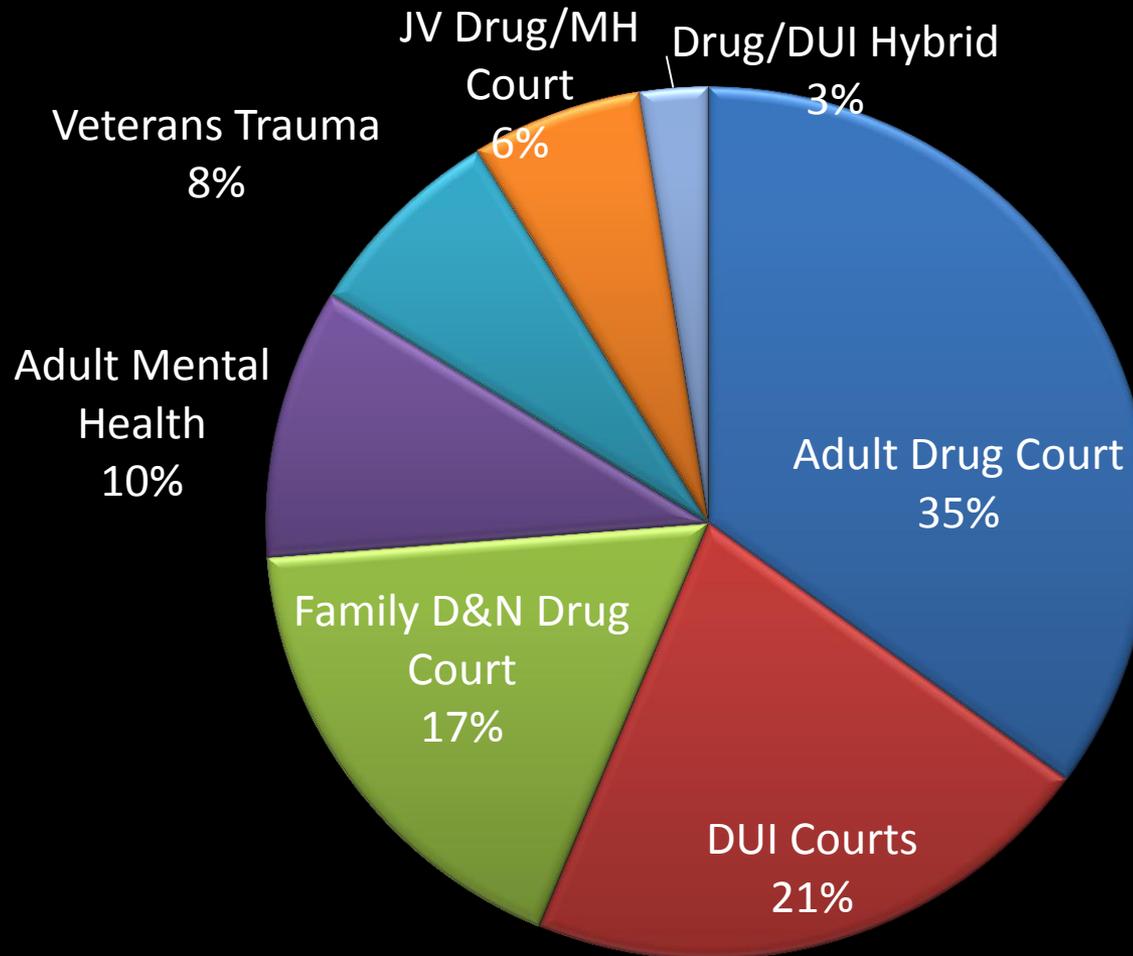
➤ **3 in Planning**

➤ **Serving over 8,000**

Defendants/Clients a year

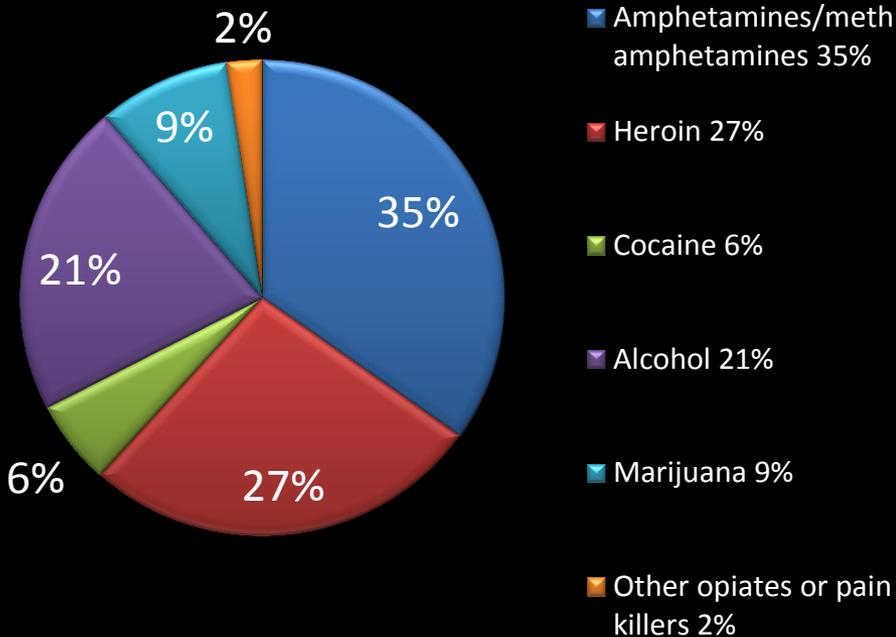


Problem Solving Courts In Colorado

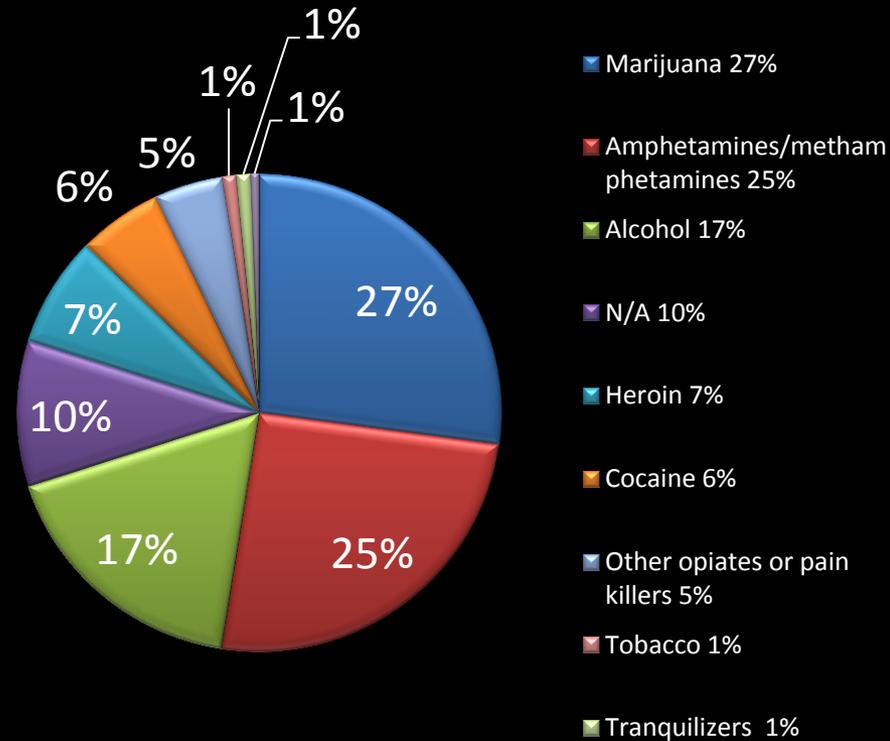


Problem Solving Court State Profile

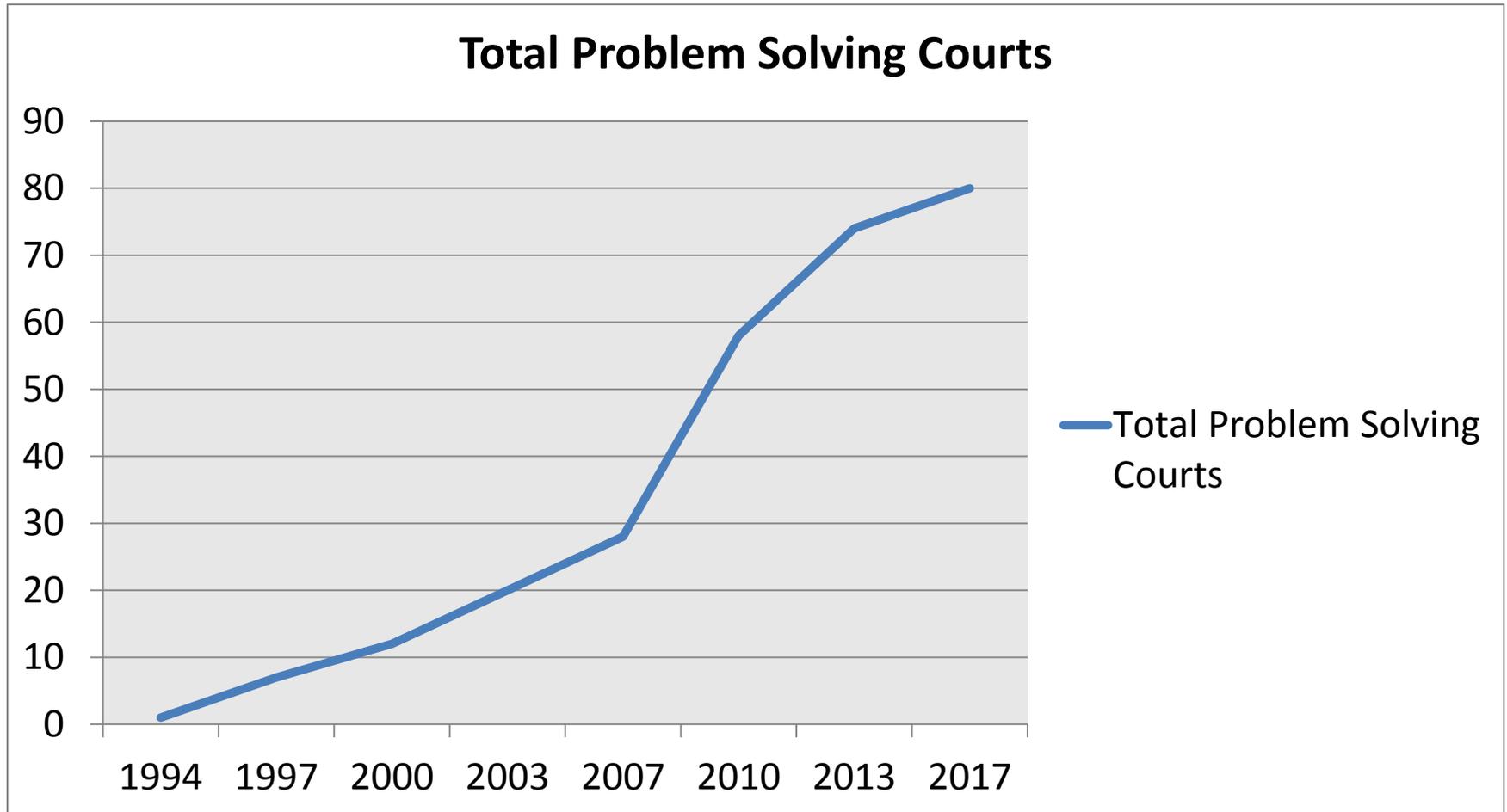
Primary Drug of Choice



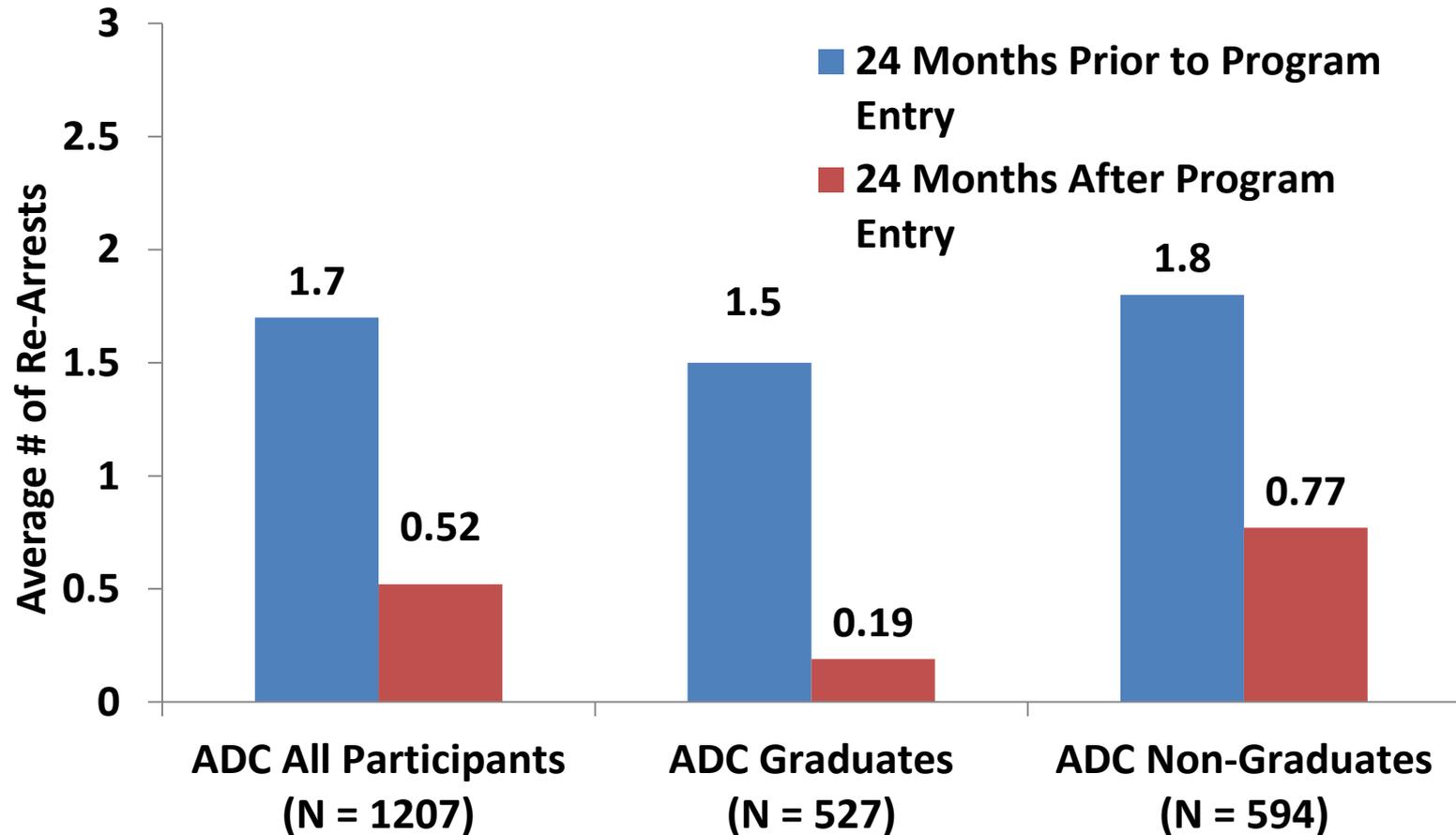
Secondary Drug of Choice



Growth In Problem Solving Courts



Adult Drug Court Impact



DUI Court Impact

