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Lettie Prell Director of Research

Curt Smith Executive Assistant to the Director



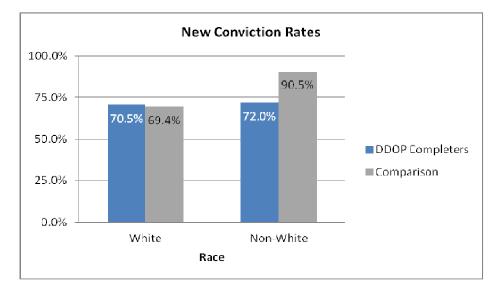


Dual Diagnosis Program Works Best for Minorities

The Iowa Division of Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning recently released a report summarizing its evaluation of the Dual Diagnosis Offender Program (DDOP) administered by the First Judicial District Department of Correctional Services.

Basically, DDOP entails case management and treatment of dual diagnosed offenders (substance abusing and mentally ill) by a team comprised of a PPO III who has expertise in working with this challenging group, a substance abuse treatment counselor, and a mental health counselor. The offenders reside from 6-12 months in a 16-bed unit for male offenders at the Waterloo Residential Correctional Facility.

The evaluation consisted of comparing outcomes of DDOP completers and non-completers with that of a control group comprised of offenders with similar characteristics not receiving DDOP. As the table below shows, there did not exist a statistically significant difference between white DDOP completers and the comparison group in regards to being convicted of a new crime. However, non-white DDOP completers were far less likely to be convicted of a new crime than non-white offenders not receiving DDOP services.

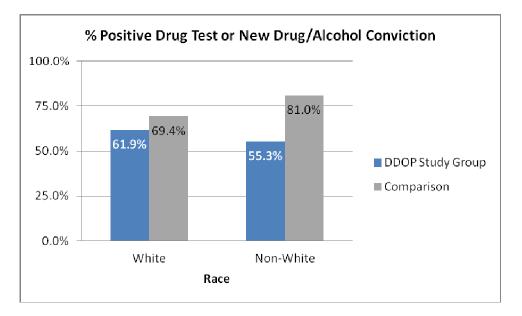


The mission of the Iowa Department of Corrections is to: Advance Successful Offender Reentry to Protect the Public, the Employees, and the Offenders from Victimization.

Iowa Department of Corrections

Data Download

When comparing outcomes for testing positive for drugs or new drug/alcohol conviction, white and nonwhite DDOP completers *and* noncompleters fared better than their counterparts in the comparison group. In other words, even noncompleters benefitted from DDOP via lower UA test results or new drug/alcohol convictions. Further, non-white DDOP offenders again achieved dramatic improvement in outcomes through participation in DDOP.



While DDOP overall provided positive outcomes for both white and non-white offenders, it proved particularly beneficial for non-white offenders. That result is good news for reducing disproportionate incarceration, and the report findings suggest that the First District expand the number of non-white offenders placed in DDOP.

The full report is available from the Iowa Division of Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning.