

ADULT DRUG COURT BEST PRACTICE STANDARDS

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Aspirational

Enforceable

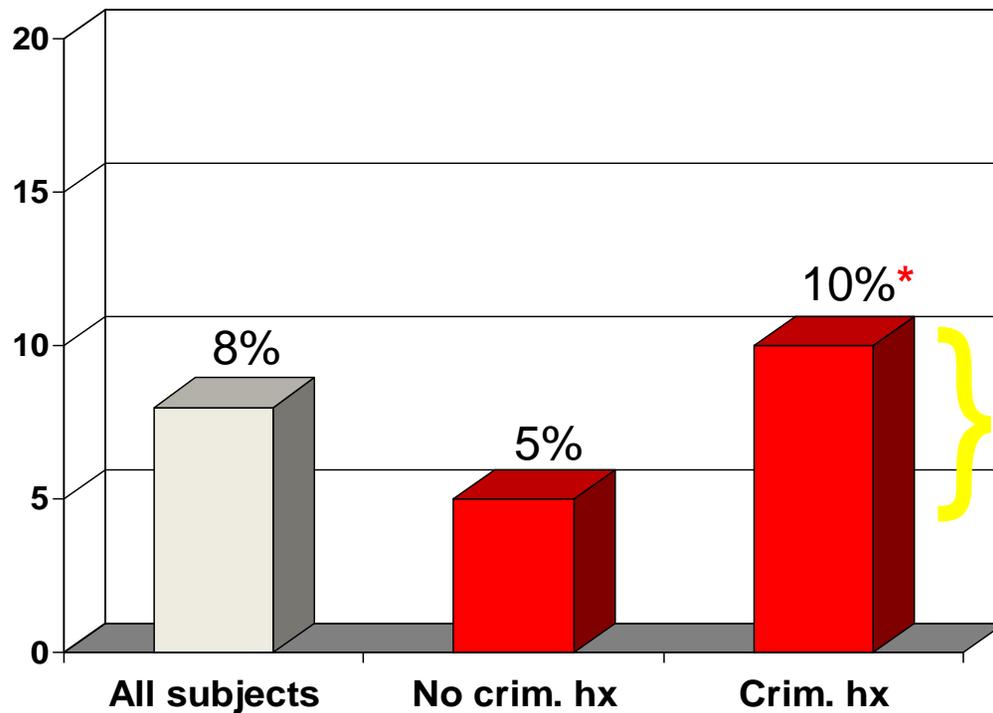
*NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
DRUG COURT PROFESSIONALS*



Target Population

- Eligibility & exclusion criteria are based on empirical evidence
- Assessment process is evidence-based

Target Population

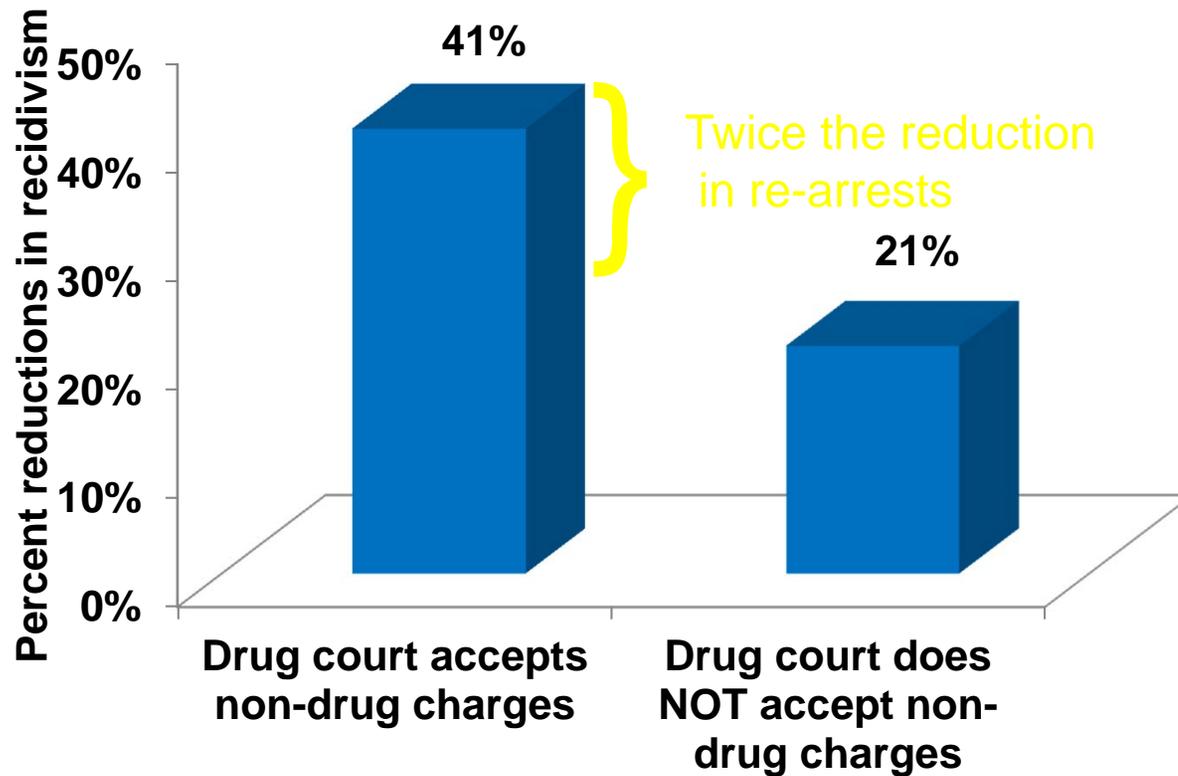


Twice the reduction
in re-arrests

HIGH RISK

Lowenkamp et al., 2005

Target Population

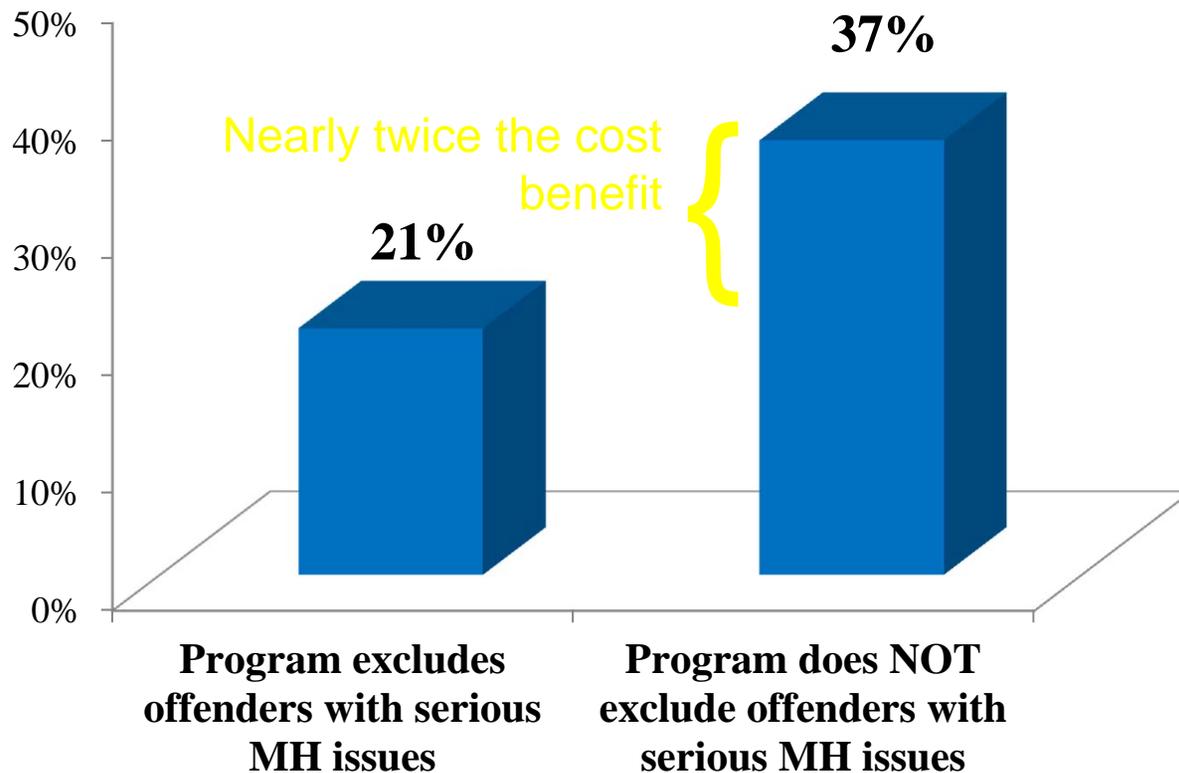


HIGH RISK



Carey et al. (2012)

Target Population



HIGH NEED

Carey et al. (2012)

Target Population

- Eligibility & exclusion criteria are based on empirical evidence
- Assessment process is evidence-based
 - A. Objective eligibility criteria
 - B. High-risk & high-need participants
 - C. Validated eligibility assessments
 - D. Criminal history disqualifications
 - “Barring legal prohibitions . . .”
 - E. Clinical disqualifications
 - “If adequate treatment is available . . .”

Hx Disadvantaged Groups

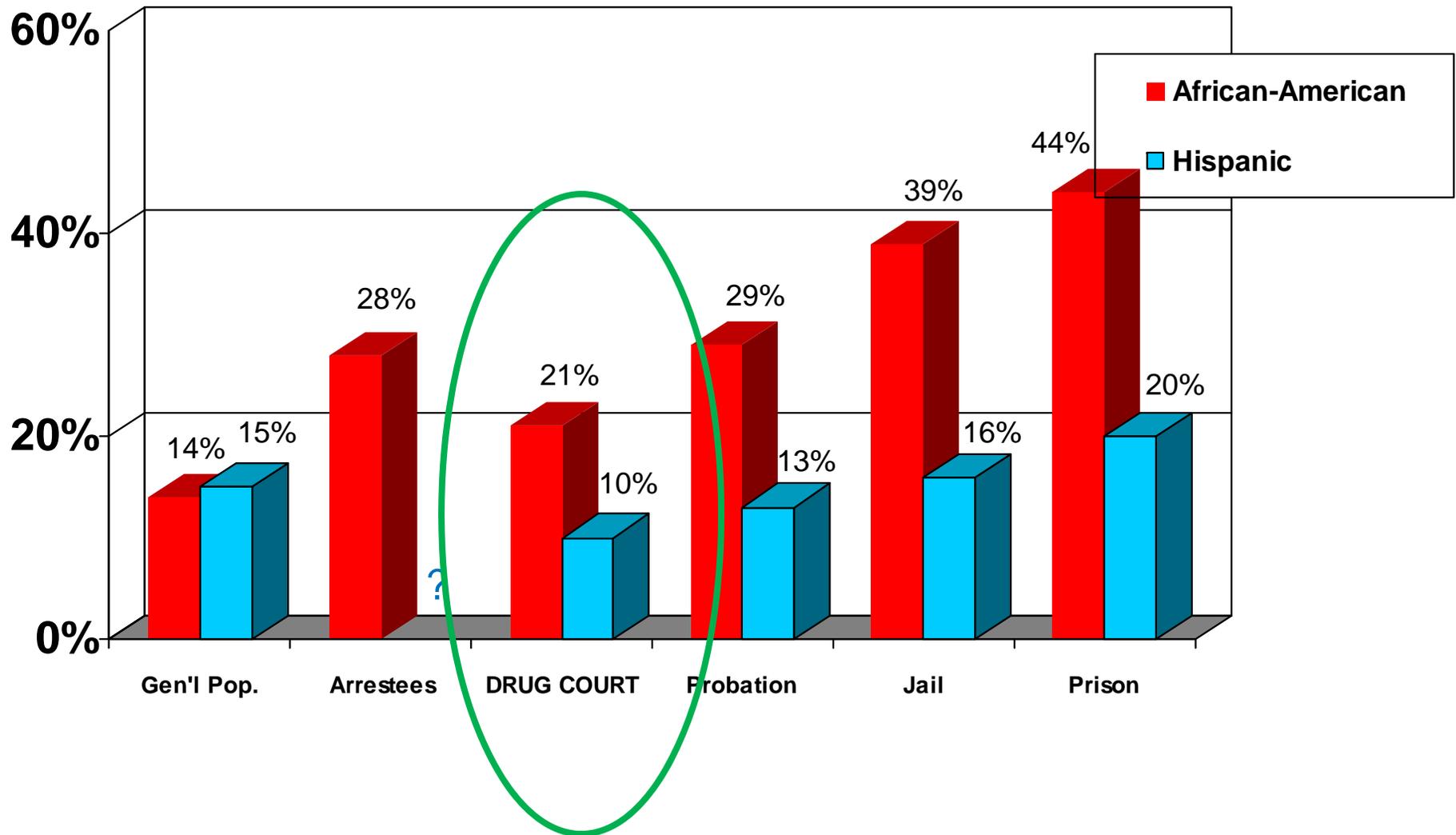
- **Equivalent opportunities to participate and succeed in Drug Court**

Minority Representation

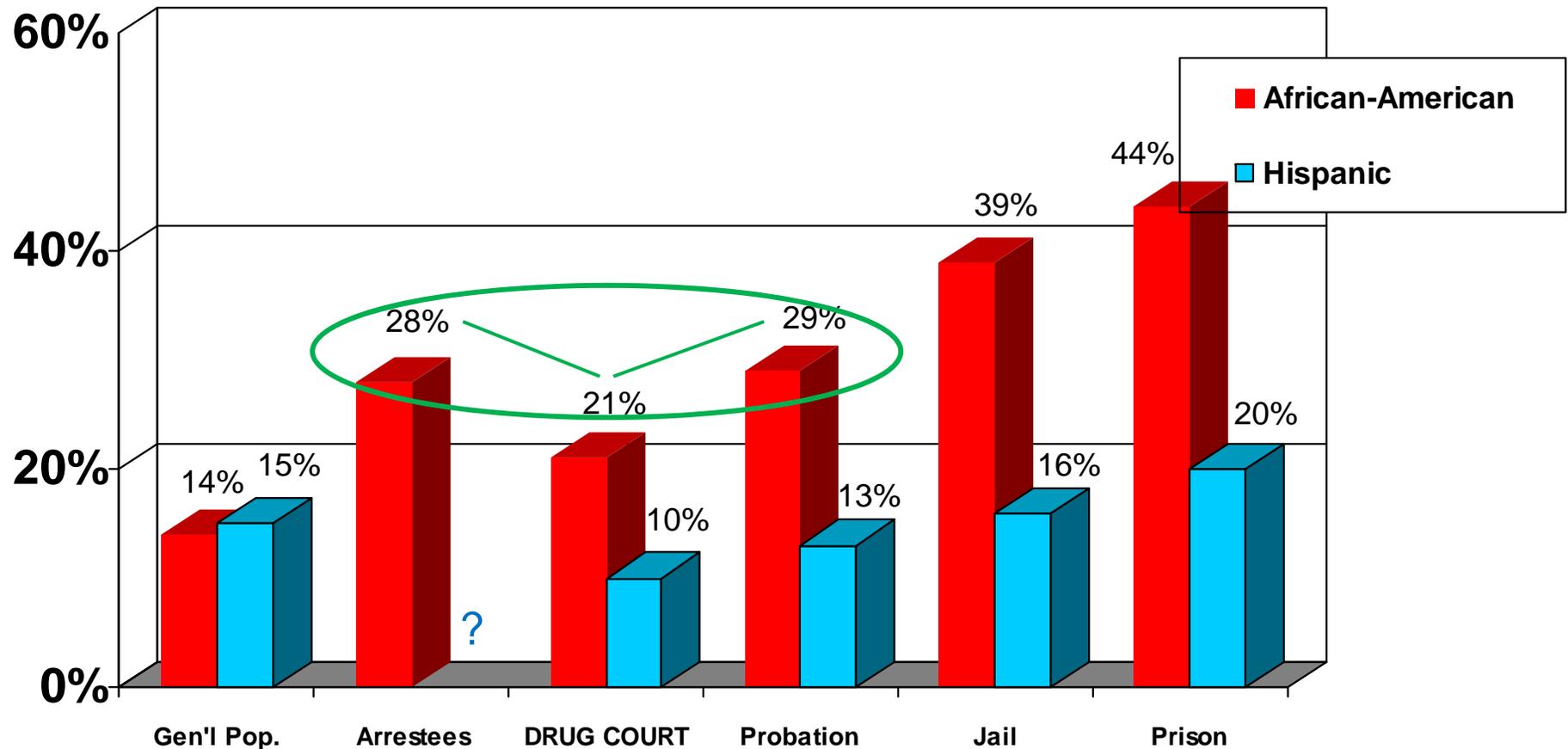
<u>Race or Ethnicity</u>	<u>Average % (SD)</u>	<u>Range</u>
Caucasian	62% (14%)	1% - 98%
African-American	21% (28%)	1% - 95%
Hispanic / Latino(a)	10% (17%)	0% - 95%
Native American	4%	< 1% - 22%



Minority Representation



Minority Representation



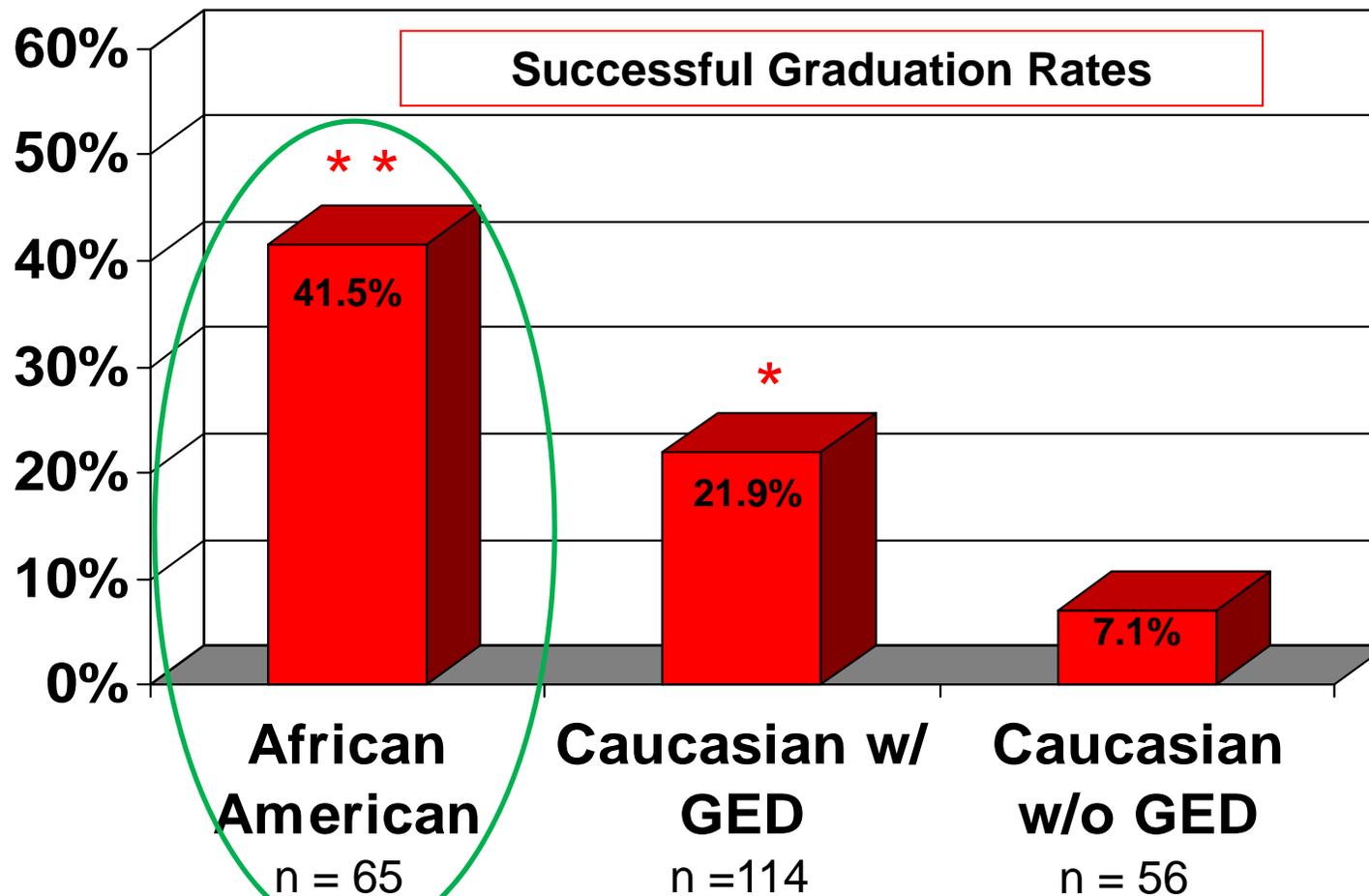
Risk for Treatment Failure

- Male gender
- Current age < 25 years
- Delinquency or substance abuse onset < 16 years
- Drug of choice (e.g., crack cocaine)
- Lower income or chronically unemployed
- Prior rehabilitation failures
- Antisocial Personality Disorder
- Familial history of crime or addiction
- Criminal or substance abuse associations

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Culturally Proficient Treatment



Vito & Tewksbury, 1998

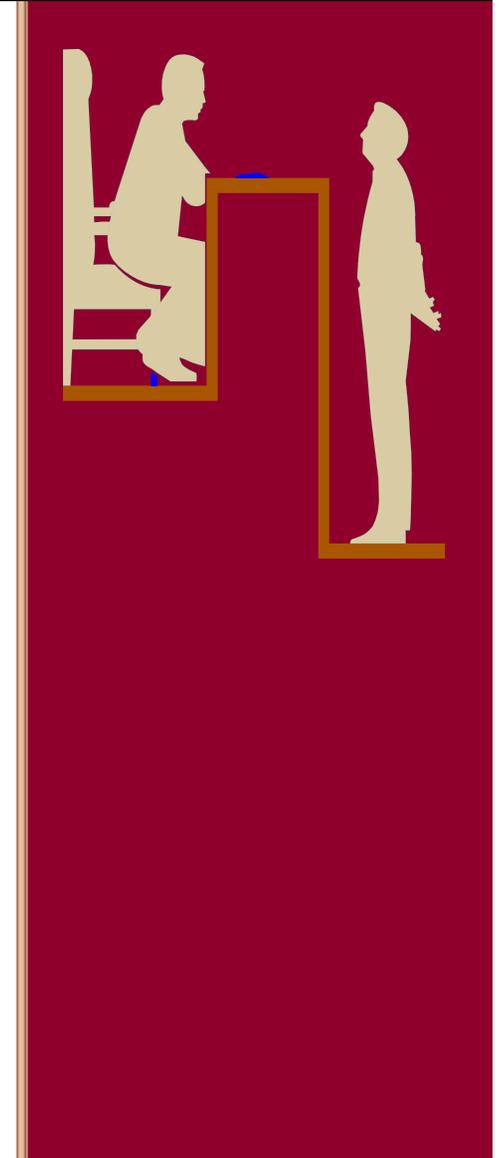
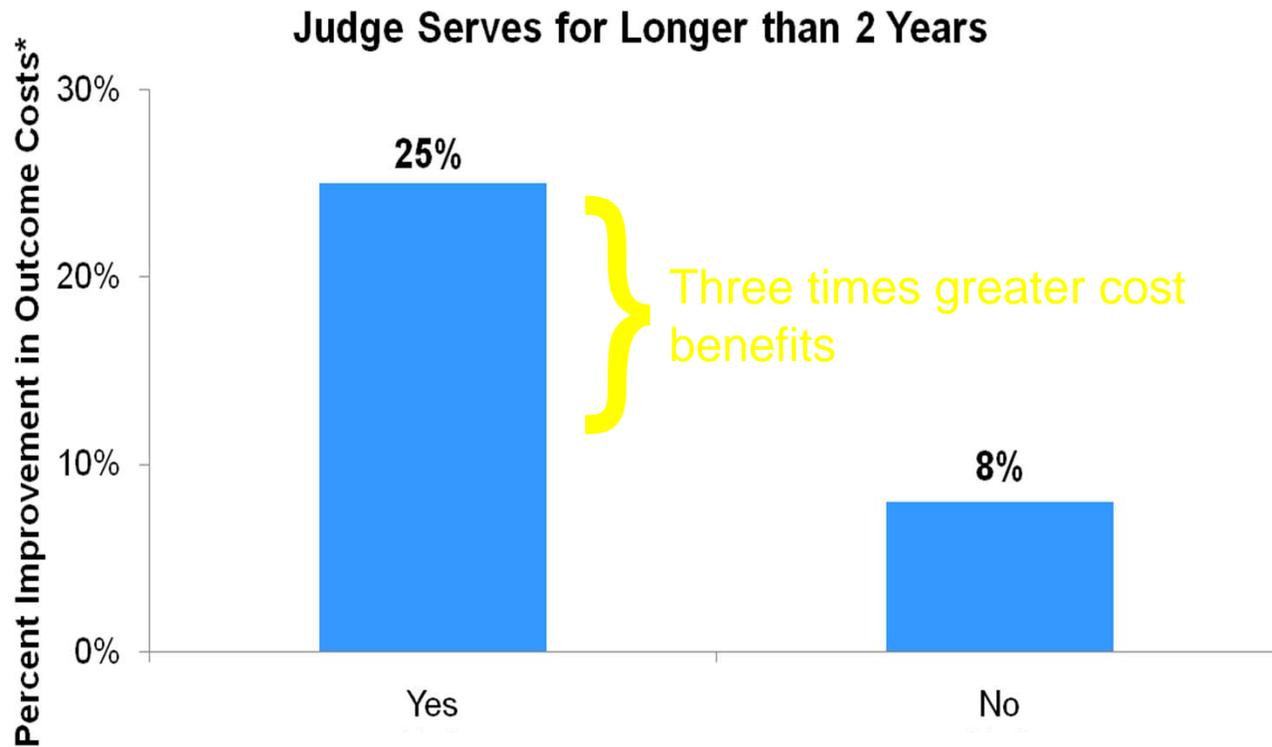
Hx Disadvantaged Groups

- **Equivalent opportunities to participate and succeed in Drug Court**
 - A. Equivalent access (intent & impact)**
 - B. Equivalent retention**
 - C. Equivalent treatment**
 - D. Equivalent incentives & sanctions**
 - E. Equivalent legal dispositions**
 - F. Team training (remedial measures)**

Roles of the Judge

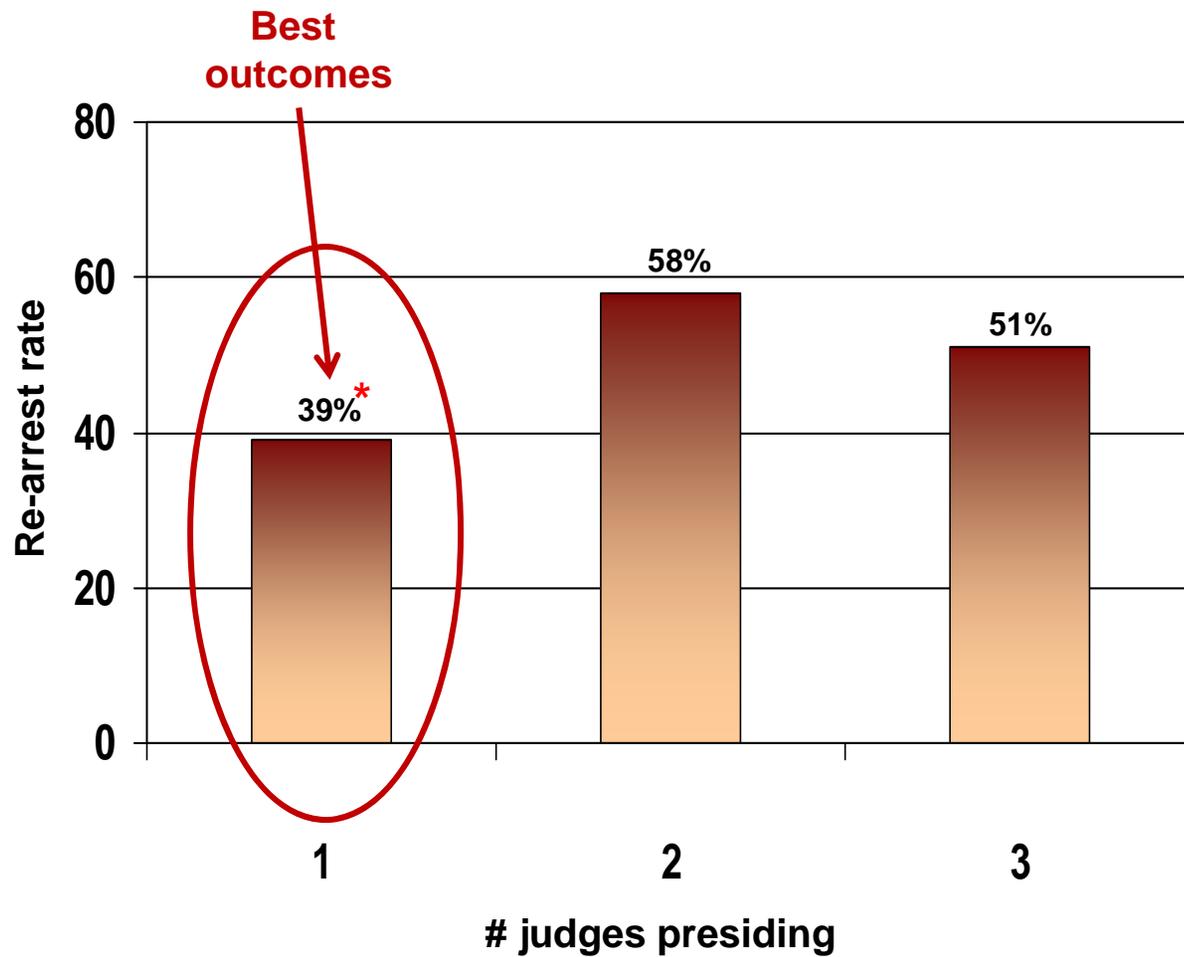
- **Contemporary knowledge; active engagement; professional demeanor; leader among equals**

Judicial Term

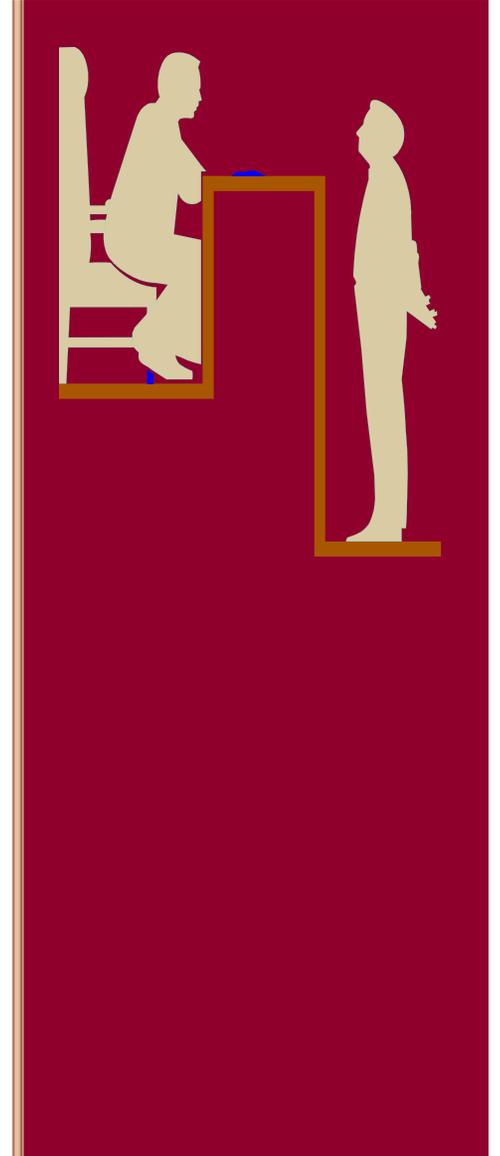


Carey et al., 2012

Consistent Docket

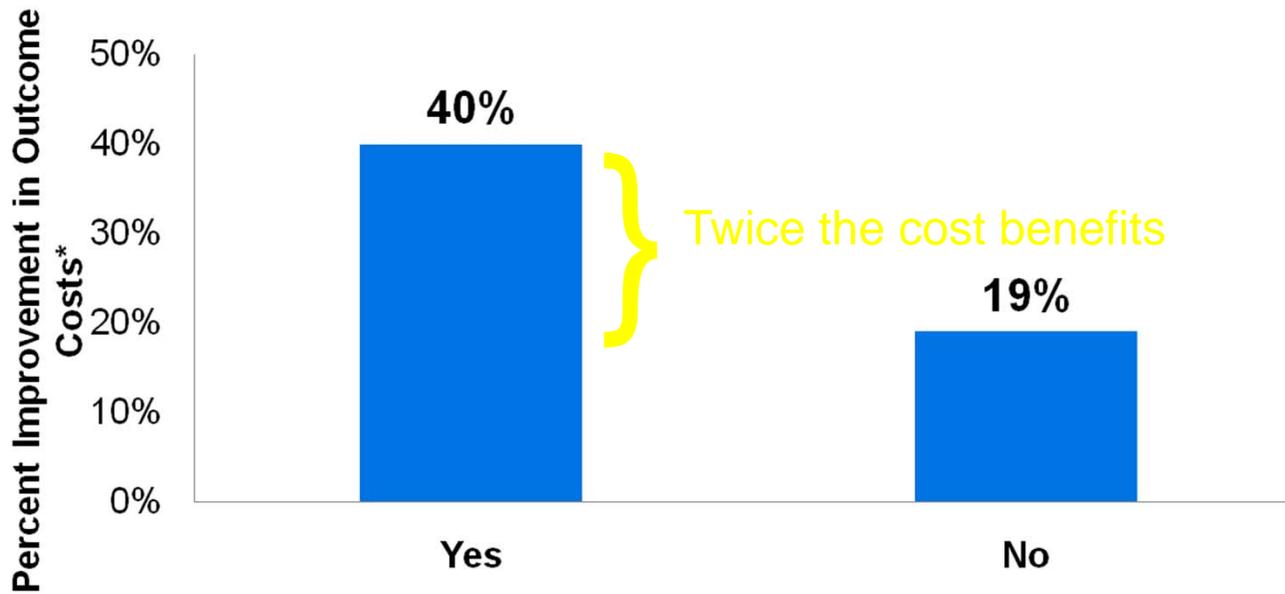


Goldkamp et al., 2002



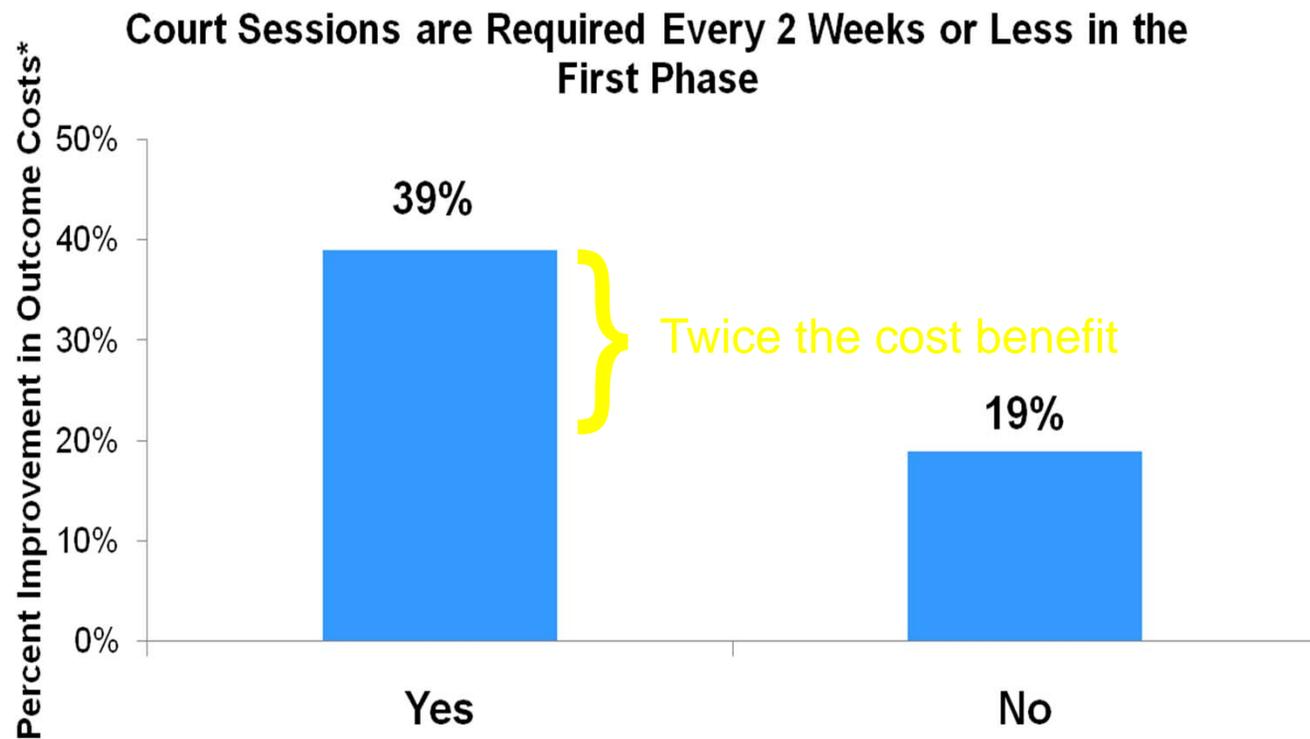
Pre-Court Staffings

All Team Members Attend Pre-Court Team Meetings



Carey et al. (2012)

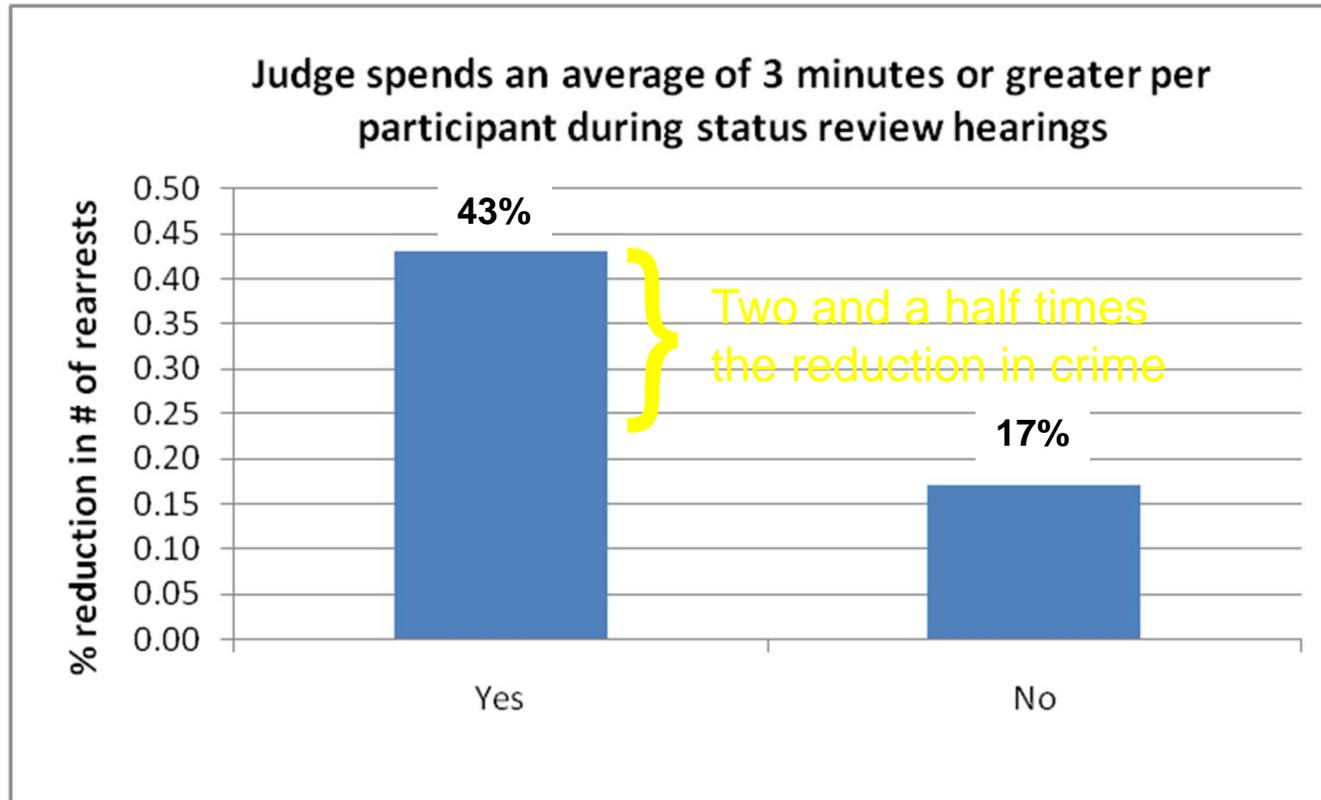
Status Hearings



Carey et al. (2012)

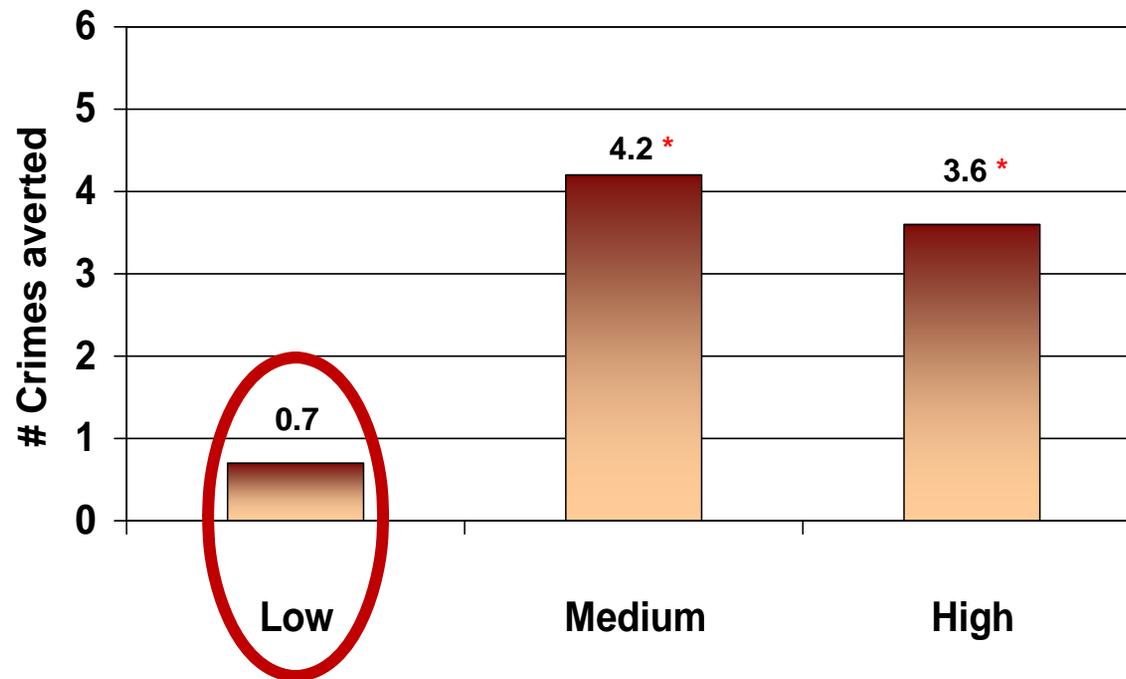


Length of Interactions



Carey et al. (2012)

Positive Judicial Qualities



* $p < .05$

Rossman et al., 2011; Zweig et al., 2012



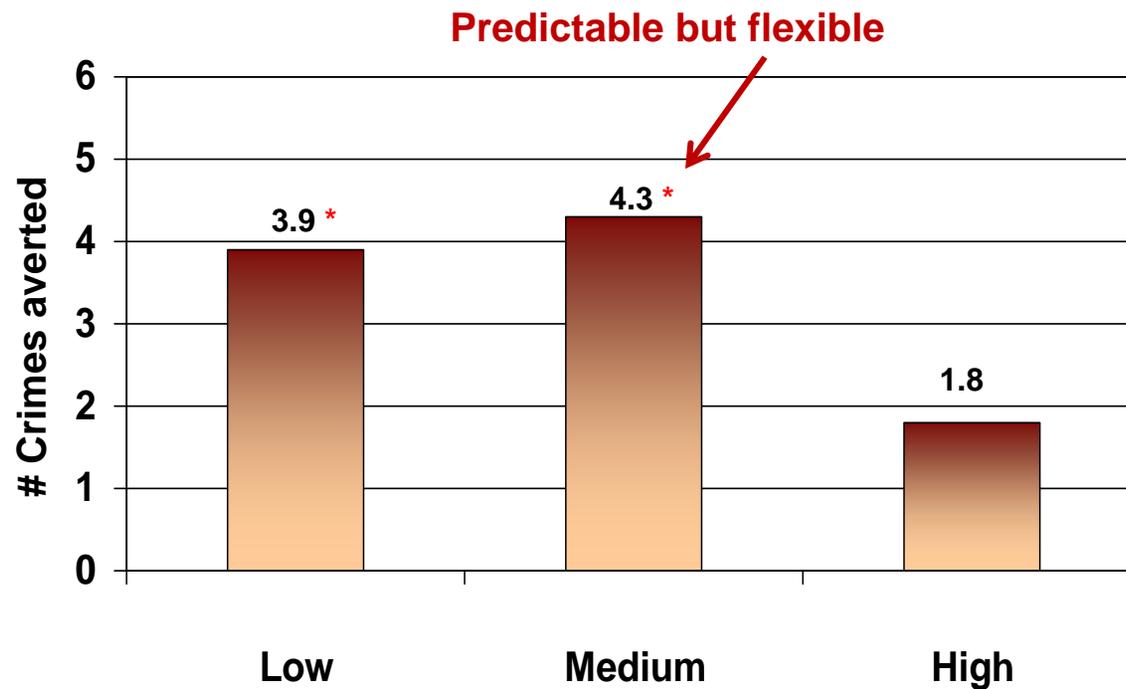
Roles of the Judge

- **Contemporary knowledge; active engagement; professional demeanor; leader among equals**
 - A. Professional training**
 - B. Length of term**
 - C. Consistent docket**
 - D. Pre-court staff meetings**
 - E. Frequency of status hearings**
 - F. Length of court interactions**
 - G. Judicial demeanor**
 - H. Judicial decision-making**

Incentives & Sanctions

- **Predictable, consistent, fair, and evidence-based**

Predictable Responses

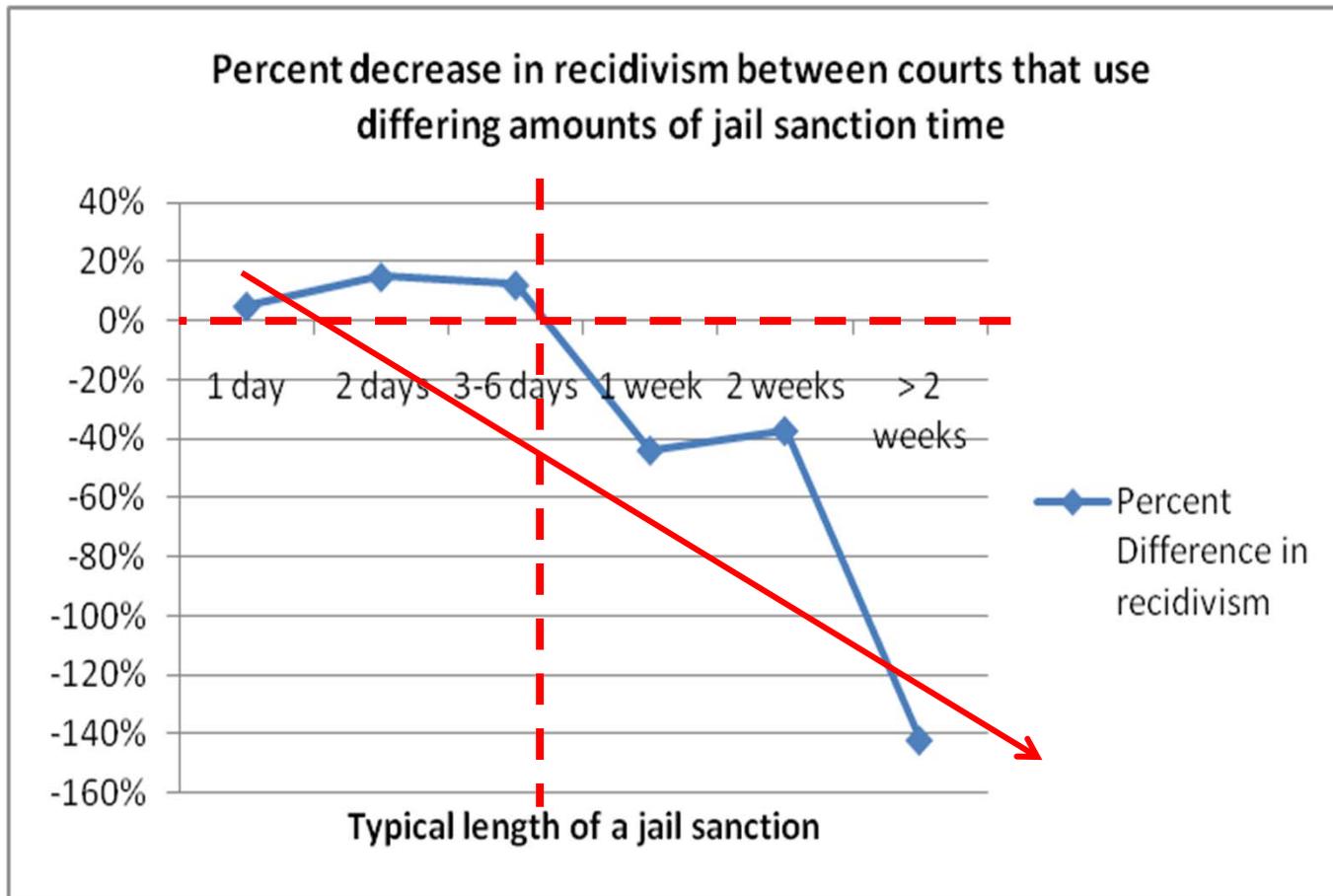


* $p < .05$

Rossman et al., 2011; Zweig et al., 2012

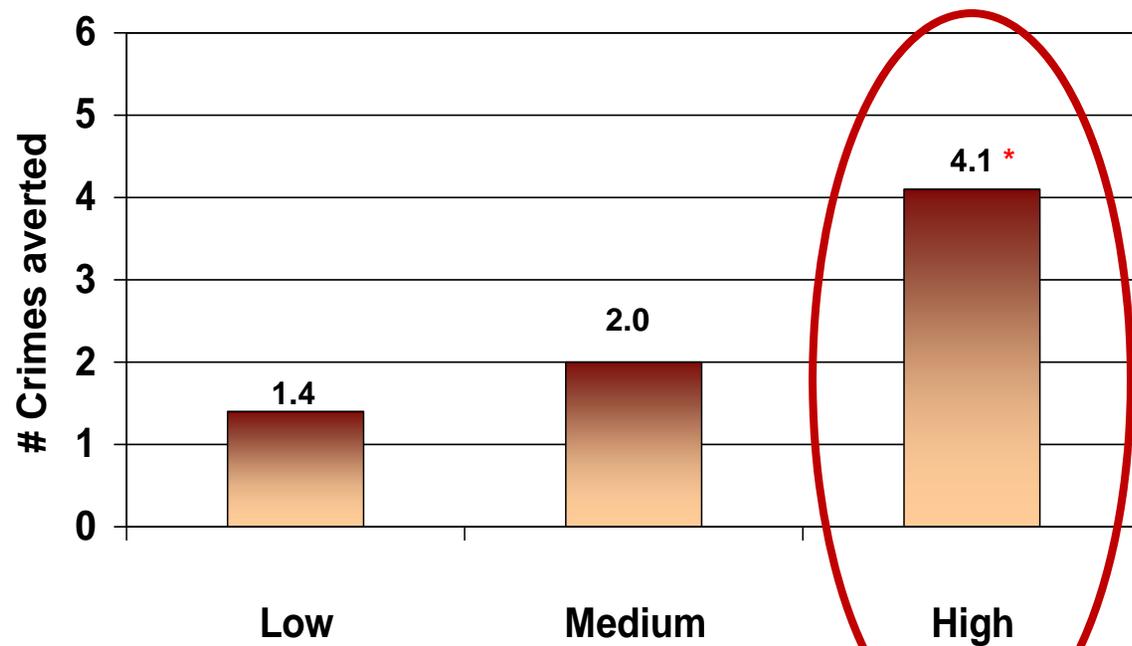


Jail Sanctions



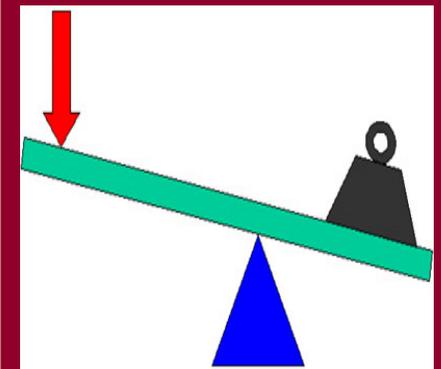
Carey et al., 2012

Legal Leverage



* $p < .05$

Rossman et al., 2011; Zweig et al., 2012



Incentives & Sanctions

- **Predictable, consistent, fair, and evidence-based**
 - A. **Advance notice**
 - B. **Opportunity to be heard**
 - C. **Equivalent consequences**
 - D. **Professional demeanor**
 - E. **Progressive sanctions**
 - F. **Licit substances**
 - G. **Therapeutic adjustments**
 - H. **Incentivizing productivity**

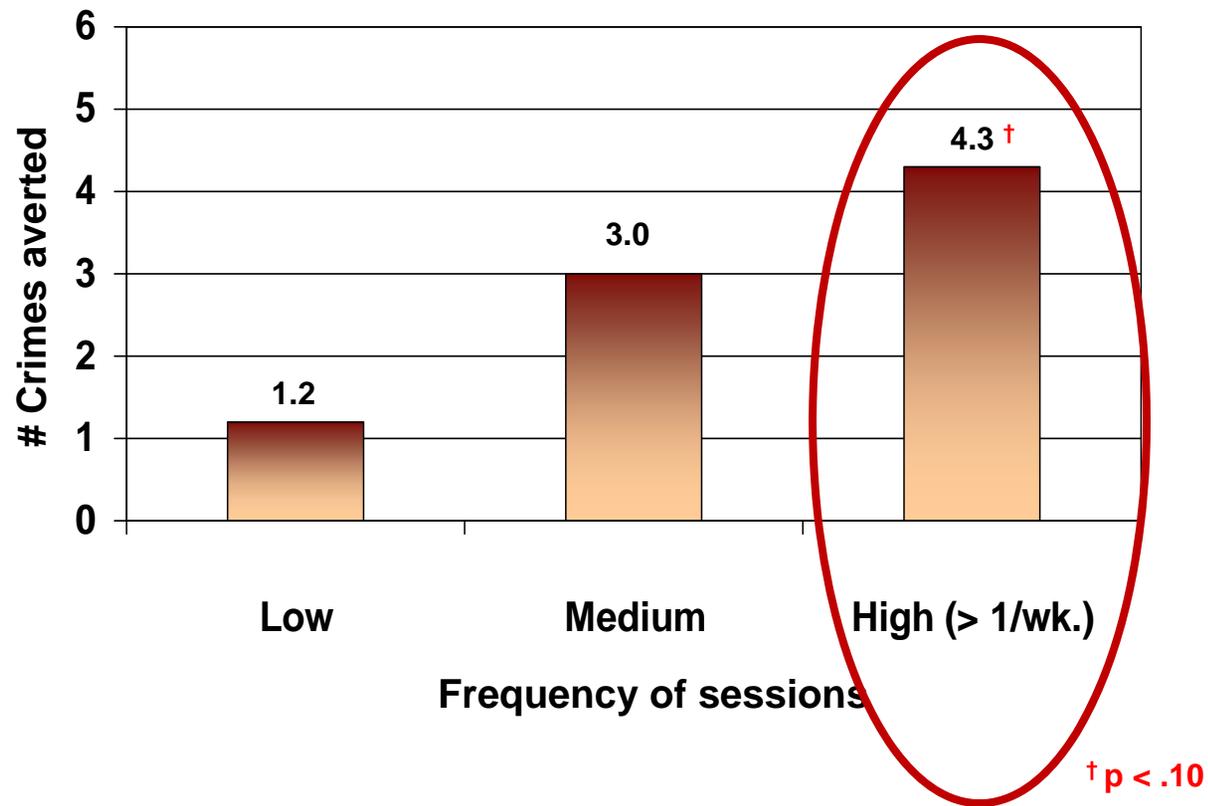
Incentives & Sanctions (cont.)

➤ Predictable, consistent, fair, and evidence-based

...

- I. Phase promotion
- J. Jail sanctions
- K. Termination
- L. Consequences of graduation and termination (leverage)

Treatment Services



Rossman et al., 2011; Zweig et al., 2012



Substance Abuse Treatment

- **Based on treatment needs and evidence-based**
 - A. **Continuum of care**
 - “if adequate care is unavailable . . .”
 - B. **In-custody treatment**
 - C. **Team representation**
 - D. **Treatment dosage and duration**
 - E. **Treatment modalities**
 - F. **Evidence-based treatments**
 - G. **Medications** ← Medically necessary or medically indicated, and reasonably available

Substance Abuse Tx (cont.)

➤ **Based on treatment needs and evidence-based**

...

H. Provider training and credentials

I. Peer support groups

J. Continuing care

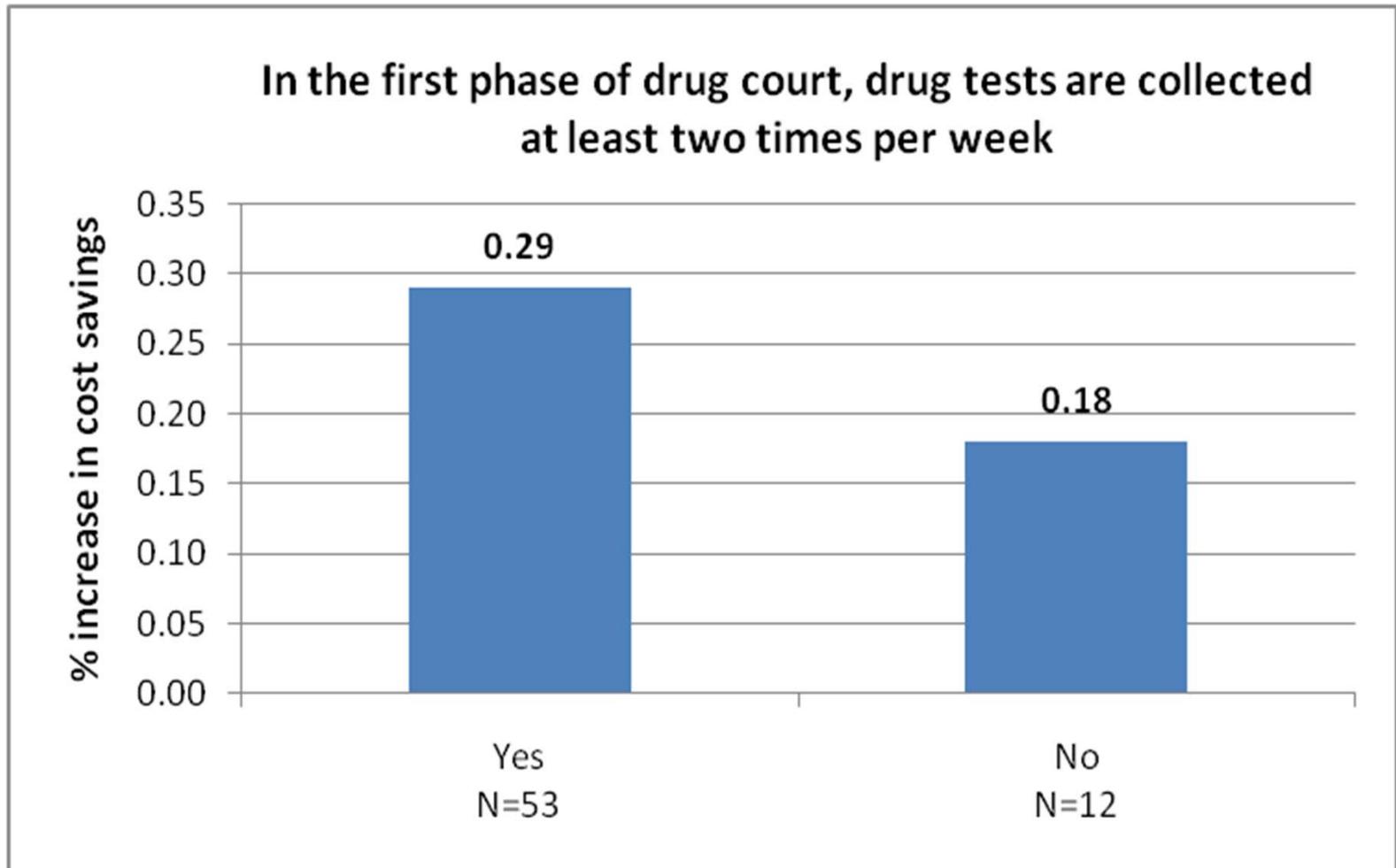
Complementary Services

- **Responsivity needs, criminogenic needs, or maintenance needs**
 - A. **Scope of needs in population**
 - B. **Timing and sequence of services**
 - C. **Clinical case management**
 - D. **Mental health treatment (integrated + medications)**
 - E. **Trauma-informed**
 - F. **Criminal thinking**
 - G. **Family & interpersonal counseling**
 - H. **Vocational or educational counseling**
 - I. **Medical or dental treatment**
 - J. **Health-risk and overdose education**

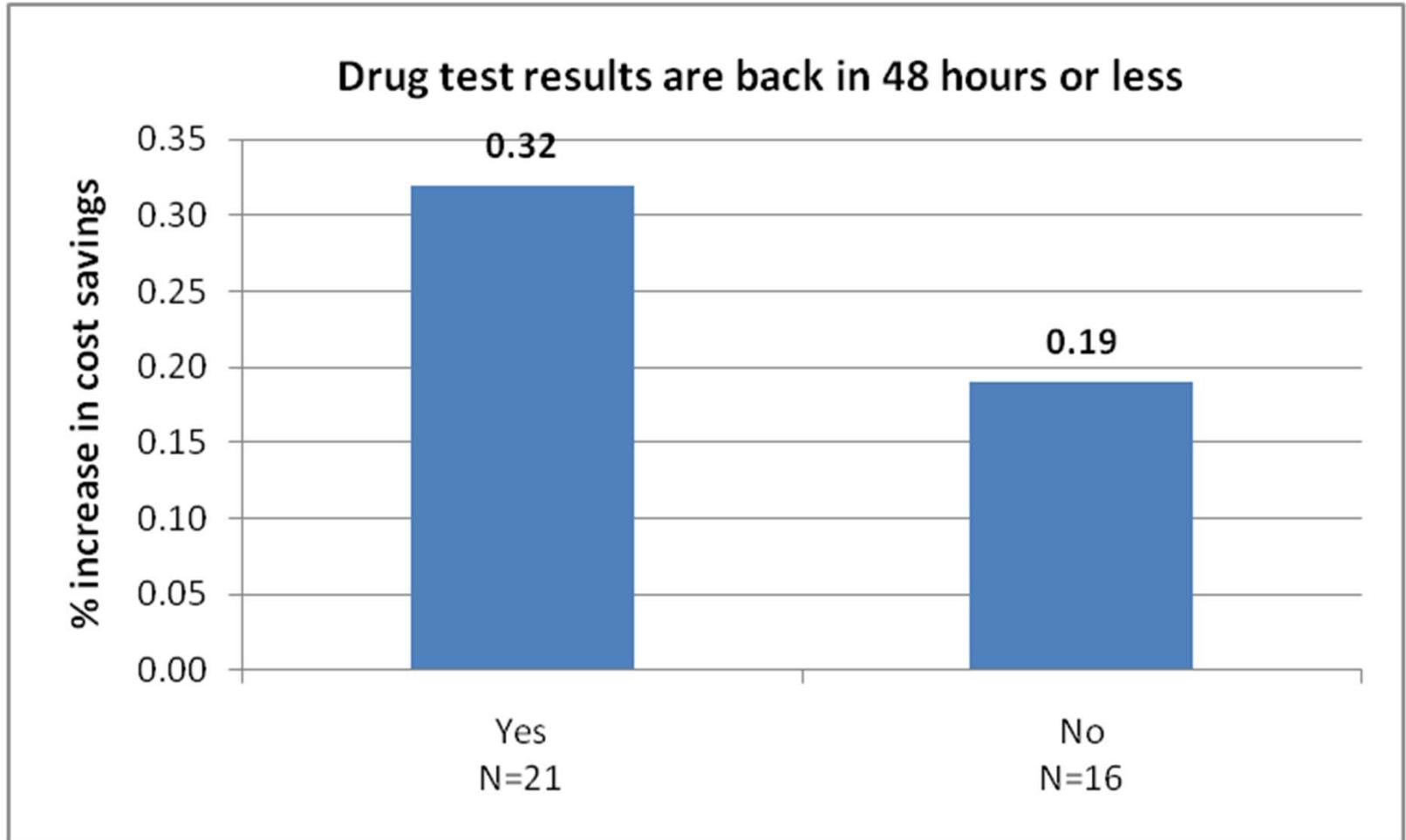
Drug & Alcohol Testing

➤ **Valid, timely and comprehensive**

Drug Courts That Performed Drug Testing Two or More Times Per Week Had Greater Cost Savings



Drug Courts That Received Drug Test Results Within 48 Hours Had Greater Cost Savings



Note 1: Difference is significant at $p < .05$

Drug & Alcohol Testing

- **Valid, timely and comprehensive**
 - A. Frequent testing**
 - B. Random testing**
 - C. Duration of testing**
 - D. Comprehensive panels**
 - E. Witnessed collection**
 - F. Valid specimens**
 - G. Valid & reliable procedures**
 - H. Rapid results**
 - I. Participant contract**

Monitoring & Evaluation

- **Routine monitoring of best practices and valid evaluations of effectiveness**
 - A. Adherence to best practices (annually)**
 - B. In-program outcomes (NRAC)**
 - C. Criminal recidivism (3 yrs.)**
 - D. Independent evaluations (5 yrs.)**
 - E. Electronic database**
 - F. Timely & reliable data entry**
 - G. Intent-to-treat analyses**
 - H. Valid comparison groups**
 - I. Equivalent time at risk**