



# Report to House Corrections Interim Committee

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## DIVERT Court Evaluation: Recidivism Findings

The Honorable John Creuzot

Criminal District Court #4, Dallas; Judicial Advisory Council Member

Compiled from research conducted by:

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Psychology Department  
Southern Methodist University

Presented by:

**The Honorable Larry J. Gist**

District Senior Judge, Judicial Advisory Council Chair

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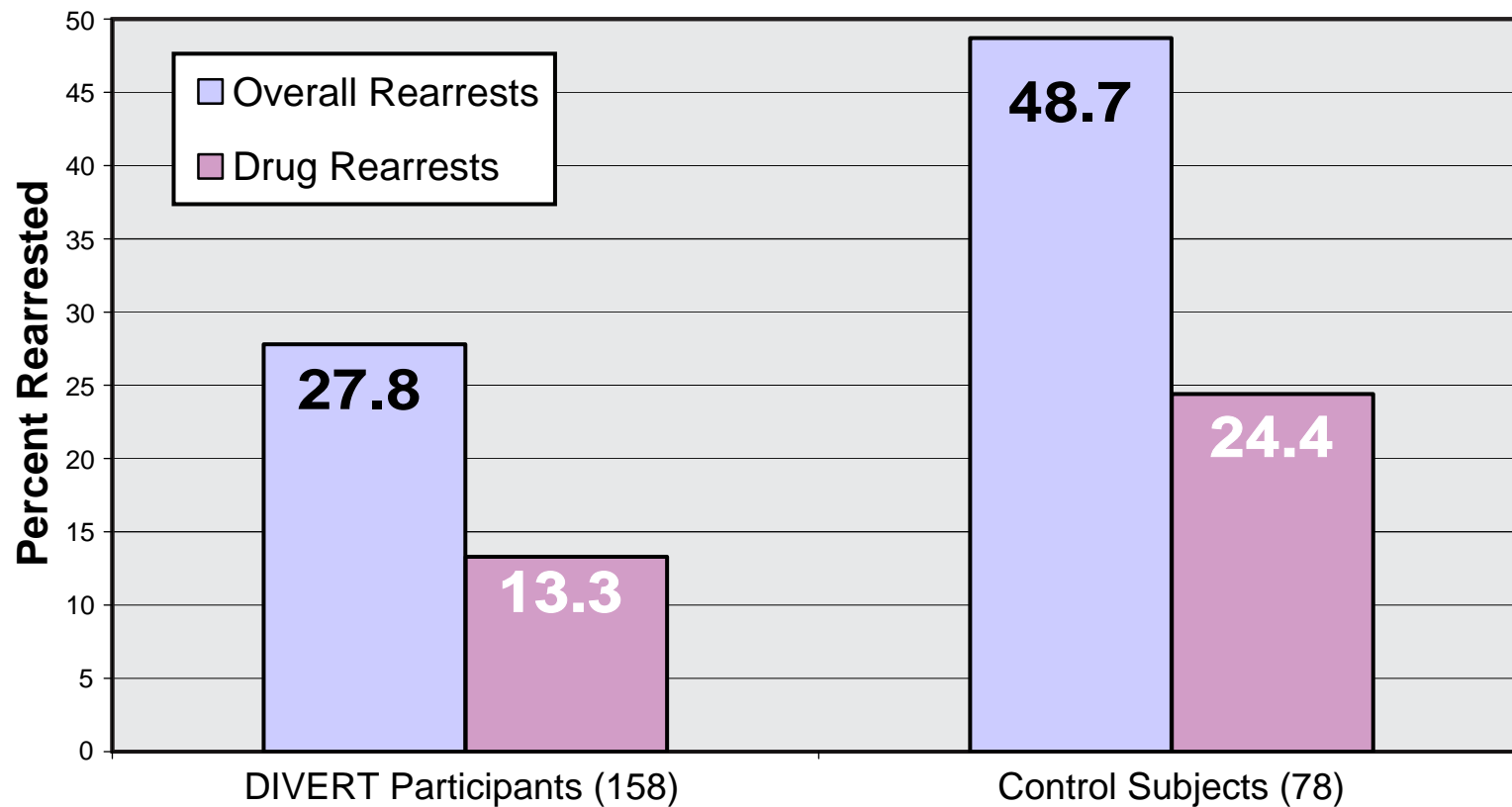
## Method

Rearrests tracked for 27 months for three different groups:

- Successful graduates of DIVERT Court (77 subjects)
  - Those discharged unsuccessfully from DIVERT (81 subjects) – “dropouts”
  - Comparison group matched to DIVERT subjects on several variables (78 subjects)
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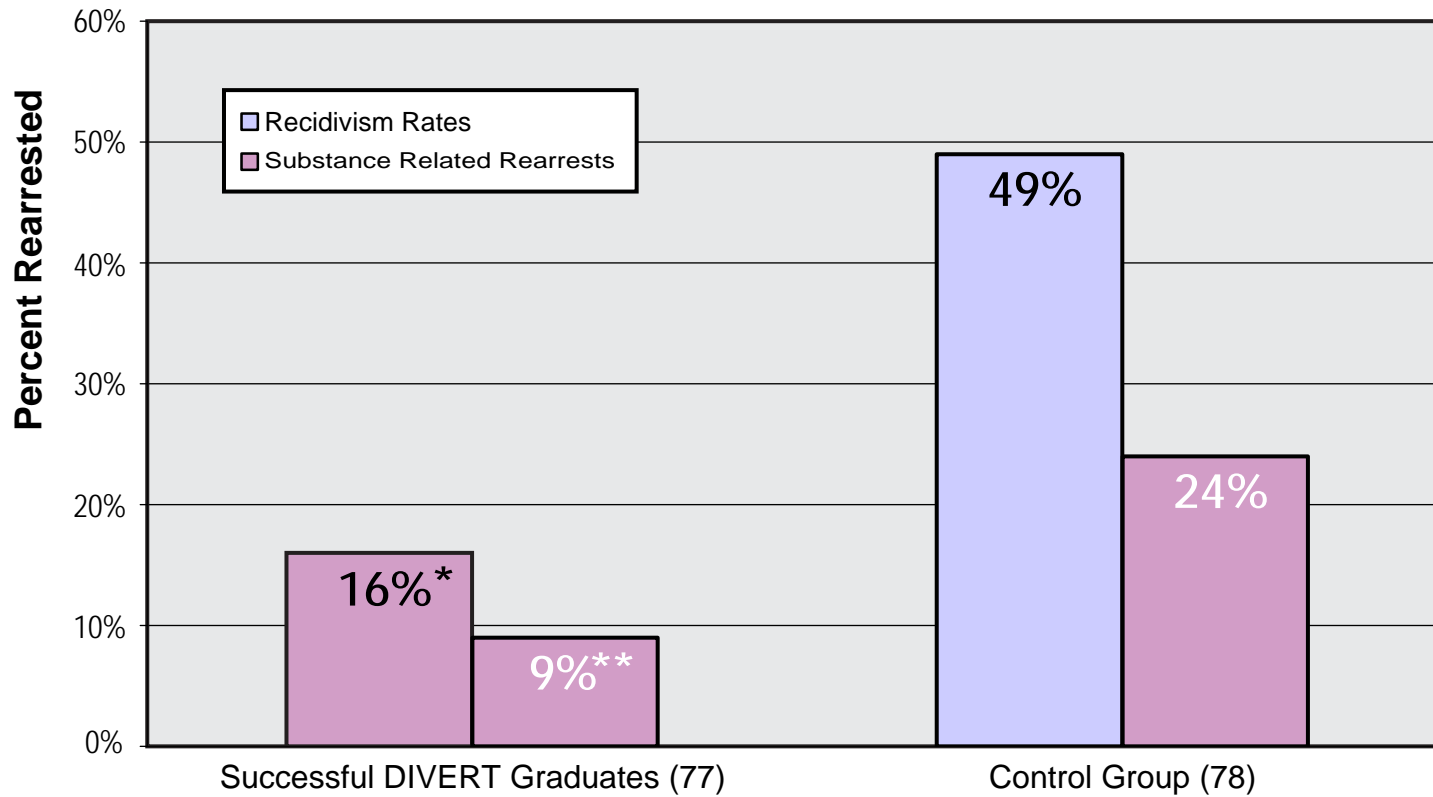
## Comparison of Recidivism: DIVERT Participants vs. Control Group



Recidivism for all DIVERT subjects reduced by 48% over the Comparison Group.

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## Recidivism Rates for Successful DIVERT Graduates

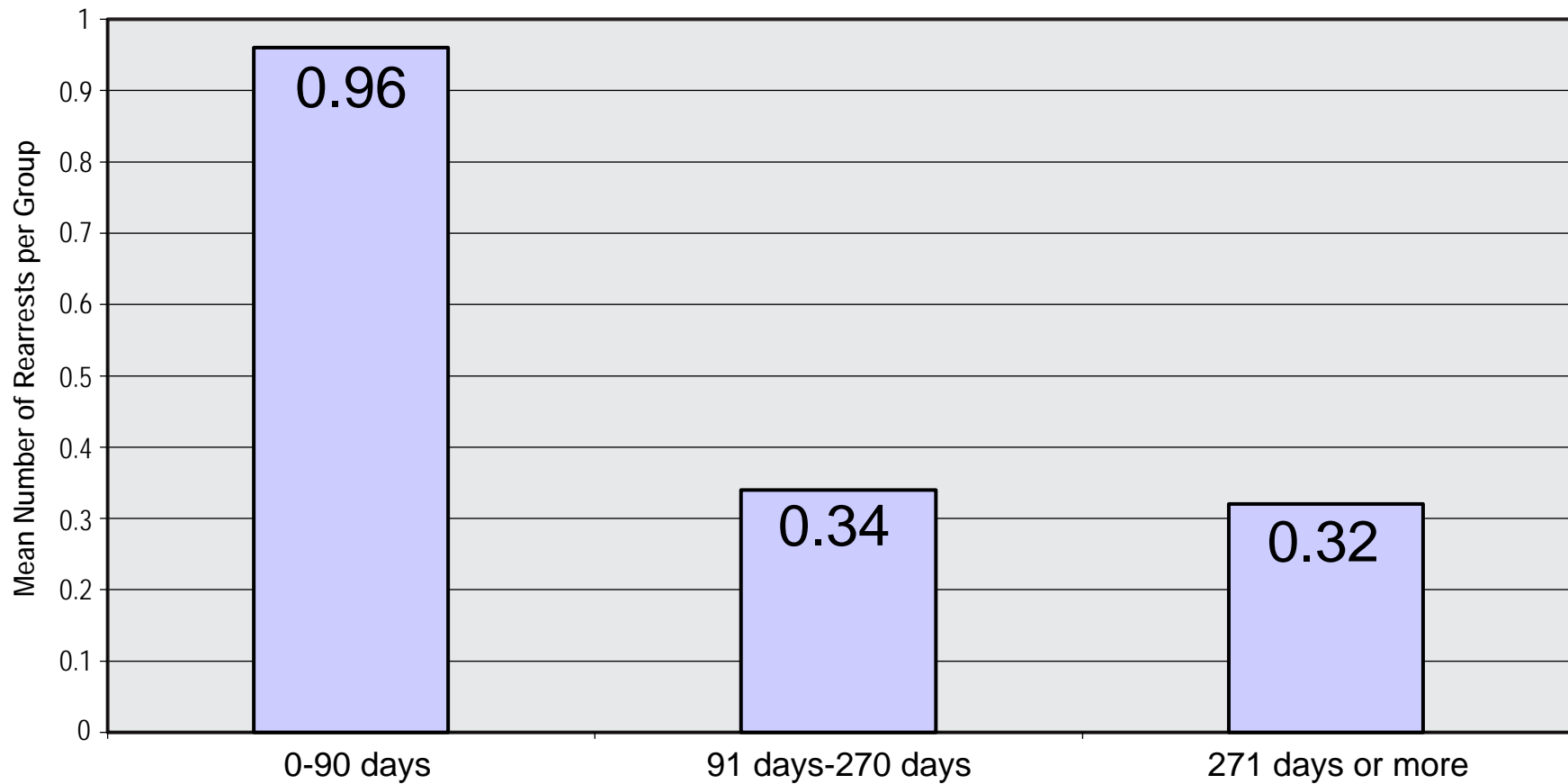


\* Shows a 68% reduction in recidivism over the comparison group

\*\*Shows a 63% reduction in substance related rearrests

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## Recidivism Rates for Dropouts Based on Length of Treatment Stay





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## Conclusions:

1. DIVERT dropouts also appear to benefit from their time spent in treatment in terms of a reduction in recidivism, though not to the same degree as for the graduates.
  2. For the dropouts, completing at least three months in DIVERT significantly reduces the chances of rearrest.
  3. The DIVERT Program is successful in reducing post-program recidivism, including substance related charges, for both graduates and dropouts.
  4. Graduates of the DIVERT Program have the lowest rearrest rates of the three groups.
  5. On the average, every additional dollar spent on drug treatment in DIVERT Court results in a reduction of \$3.40 in costs to society over a 37.5 month period.
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