

Problem Solving Courts

The term "problem solving courts" is used to describe jail diversionary programs designed to address the underlying reasons for crime such as substance use disorders and mental illness. Problem solving courts consist of drug treatment courts, mental health courts, and veterans treatment courts and target people charged with nonviolent offenses who have the highest risk of reoffending and are in need of treatment interventions. Core team members include court personnel, law enforcement, prosecutors, defense attorneys, community corrections, and treatment professionals. Depending on the type of court, team members may also include professionals from extended community resources. Teams meet regularly to measure progress in recovery and compliance with program requirements.

Participants are closely supervised and constantly monitored through random drug and alcohol testing. Treatment types include, but are not limited to, cognitive behavioral therapy, assertive community treatment, family functional therapy, multisystemic therapy, and trauma-informed care. Progress reviews are provided frequently by teams in front of the judge. Sanctions for noncompliance are immediate. Positive and negative reinforcement is provided based on behavior. Intervention services are offered to adults, youths, families, and veterans while requiring accountability to protect public safety. Services are designed to improve level of functioning, strengthen ability to cope without drugs or alcohol, maintain compliance with medications, offer structure and guidance, and reduce recidivism.

Problem Solving Court Programs

	Drug	Treatment Cou	ırts	Mental Health Courts		Veterans
	Adult	Juvenile	Family	Adult	Juvenile	Treatment
<u>Year</u>	Programs	Programs	Programs	Programs	Programs	Courts
2018	98	13	8	27	6	27
2019	106	12	8	31	6	27
2020	105	12	8	31	6	27
2021	106	12	8	33	8	27
2022	109	11	8	35	7	28

Source: Problem Solving Courts Annual Reports

House Fiscal Agency 11/15/2023