

# MUNICIPAL COURT

## PROBLEM SOLVING COURTS

### EVALUATION REPORT



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COURT | VETERANS COURT | MENTAL HEALTH COURT



**FISCAL YEAR 2023-24**  
(May 2023-April 2024)



**KANSAS CITY**



**16th Judicial Circuit Court of Missouri**

Kansas City Municipal Division  
511 E 11th St.  
Kansas City, Missouri 64106

Courtney Wachal, *Presiding Judge*  
Megan Pfannenstiel, *Court Administrator*

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## MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the problem-solving courts is to address the behavioral health issues of individuals in the criminal justice system through therapeutic interventions, referrals to community partners and the monitoring of participation in follow-up services thereby enhancing public safety.

MUNICIPAL COURT

511

MUNICIPAL COURT

Kansas City

Missouri

## SPECIALTY COURTS OVERVIEW

This report illustrates services and success rates for the City of Kansas City Specialty Courts for Domestic Violence, Veterans Court and Mental Health Court for the fiscal year ending April 30, 2024 (May 1, 2023 through April 30, 2024). The report was prepared by the City of Kansas City, Missouri Municipal Court Staff using the Community CareLink Database which is managed by Specialty Court Staff. Urinalysis test results were provided by the City of Kansas City Municipal Court Urinalysis Lab.

Specialty Court annual reports for Truancy and Drug Court will be provided through a contract with The Resource Development Institute (RDI.)

The Kansas City Municipal Court manages multiple ordinance violations and through referral to a Problem-Solving Court Program offers alternatives to incarceration by providing defendants with the tools and resources necessary to be reacclimated to society. The major goal of the specialty courts is to eliminate recidivism and improve the quality of life for participants.

Specialty Court Coordinators refer participants to qualified agencies that provide individual and group counseling. Additionally, these community partners assist with housing, employment opportunities and medical resources for the participants. Time within the program may vary due to severity of case and/or the individuals progress throughout the program. Regular attendance at court proceedings, completion of treatment plans and regular meetings with specialty court coordinators are required. Participants are also subject to mandatory drug testing which is provided by the Municipal Court.

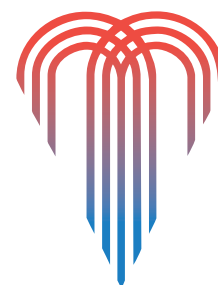
The City of Kansas City provides incentives as a reflection of the participants' success. Incentives are given to participants for compliance with program guidelines.

Participants not following the program guidelines may receive sanctions which include increased court appearances, additional meetings with treatment providers/probation officers, additional community service, incarceration or termination from the program.

Successful completion from the program requires participants to have satisfactory attendance at all treatment, probation and court appearances. Graduation ceremonies are held for participants that successfully complete the specialty court program.



# DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COURT



# KANSAS CITY DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COMPLIANCE DOCKET

The Kansas City Domestic Violence Court established a Compliance docket in 2015. This docket is an intensely supervised probation process for high-risk offenders charged with child abuse, child endangerment, stalking and violations of protective orders and intimate partner violence, including strangulation.

Participants on the Domestic Violence Compliance Docket meet on a regular basis with their assigned Offender Accountability Coordinator and appear regularly in front of the judge to monitor progress within the program. Many participants suffer from behavioral health disorders and are referred treatment within the community.

Successful completion of the Domestic Violence Compliance Docket includes:

- Appearance at all scheduled compliance docket hearings
- Compliance with behavioral health provider recommendations
- Completion of 26 weeks of Batterer's Intervention Program
- Payment of all court costs and fees
- Compliance with orders of protection and no contact conditions of probation
- Can not possess or purchase firearms or ammunition
- Can not have any new Domestic Violence Charges
- Defendants are subject to electronic monitoring
- Defendants receive random urinalysis testing



# DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RSVP DOCKET

In June 2022, the Kansas City Municipal Court developed a Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention Program (RSVP) targeted at first time male offenders charged with intimate partner violence and are between the ages of 18-26. The RSVP Program is a diversion program that includes funding for wrap around services and victim advocacy for intimate partners. Participants that complete the program will have their case dismissed.

Participants on the Domestic Violence RSVP Docket meet on a regular basis with their assigned Offender Accountability Coordinator and appear regularly in front of the judge to monitor progress within the program.

Successful completion of the Domestic Violence RSVP Program includes:

- Appearance at all scheduled compliance docket hearings
- Report to Judge on monthly basis for progress
- Compliance with treatment provider
- Completion of 26 weeks of Batterer's Intervention Program
- Payment of all court costs and fees
- Compliance with orders of protection and no contact conditions of probation
- Can not possess or purchase firearms or ammunition
- Can not have any new Domestic Violence Charges
- Participants that complete the RSVP program will have no conviction on record
- Defendants are subject to electronic monitoring
- Defendants receive random urinalysis testing

# DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COURT COMPLIANCE DOCKET FACT SHEET FY24 (MAY 1, 2024-APRIL 30, 2024)

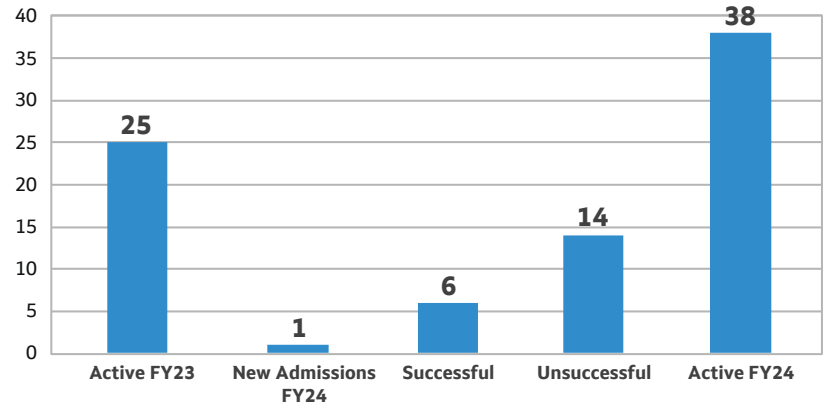
## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COMPLIANCE DOCKET PARTICIPANTS

59 participants participated in the DV Compliance Docket program for Fiscal Year 2024. 6 (10%) successfully completed the program and 14 (24%) failed to meet program requirements.

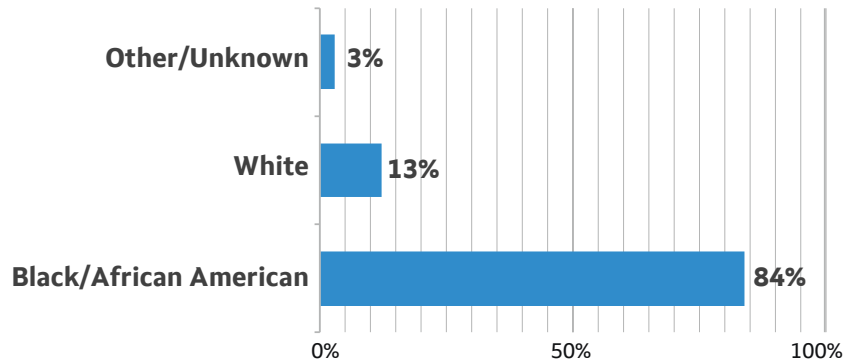
## DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

84% of participants in the Domestic Violence Court Compliance Docket identified as Black or African American, 13% White and 3% were other or unidentified. 100% of the participants were male.

### DV COMPLIANCE DOCKET PARTICIPANTS



### DV COMPLIANCE DOCKET RACE DEMOGRAPHICS



### URINALYSIS TEST RESULTS

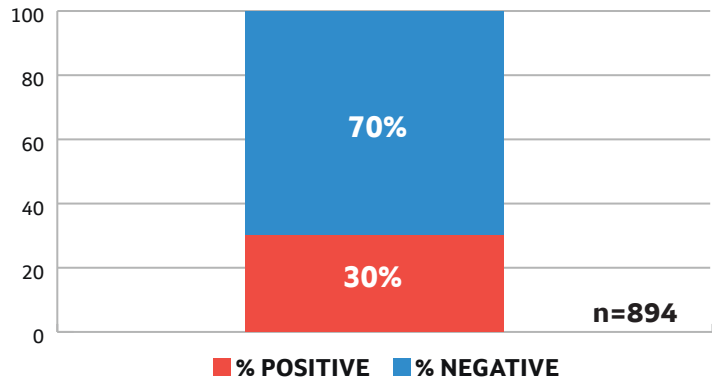
63 participants were tested in FY24 and of 894 specimens collected 30% were positive.

The drug lab conducted a 9 test panel which included tests for cocaine, alcohol, amphetamines, marijuana, opioids, benzodiazepines, PCP and fentanyl.

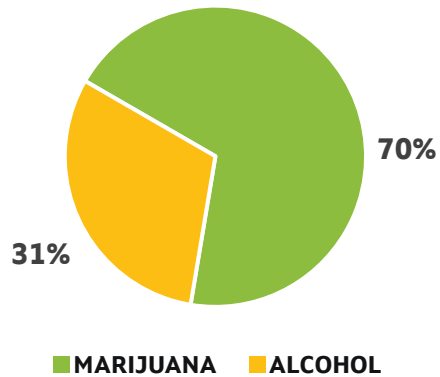
### TYPES OF DRUGS USED AND POSITIVE TESTS

Of the specimens that tested positive, the results indicated that marijuana was the most common drug used by program participants with 70% of positive tests being for marijuana followed by 31% for alcohol. Other drugs that resulted in positive tests included cocaine, amphetamines, PCP and fentanyl.

### DV COMPLIANCE DOCKET URINALYSIS TEST RESULTS



### DV COMPLIANCE DOCKET POSITIVE RESULTS



# DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COURT RSVP DOCKET

## FACT SHEET FY24 (MAY 1, 2023-APRIL 30, 2024)

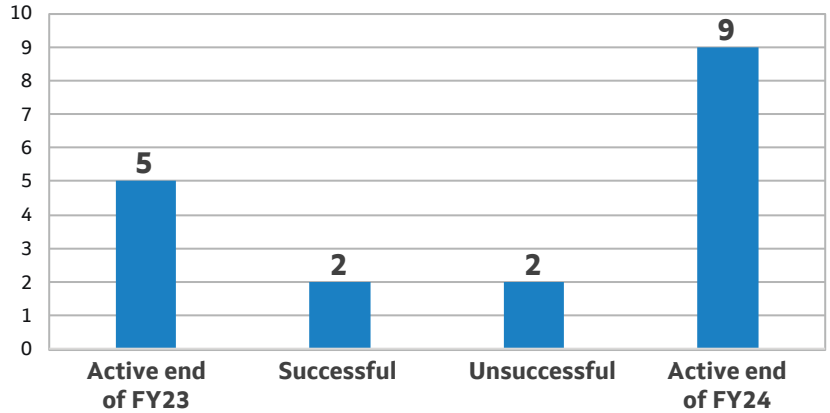
### DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RSVP PARTICIPANTS

At end of FY24, 9 individuals remained active in the Domestic Violence RSVP Program and 2 successfully completed the program while 2 unsuccessfully completed the program.

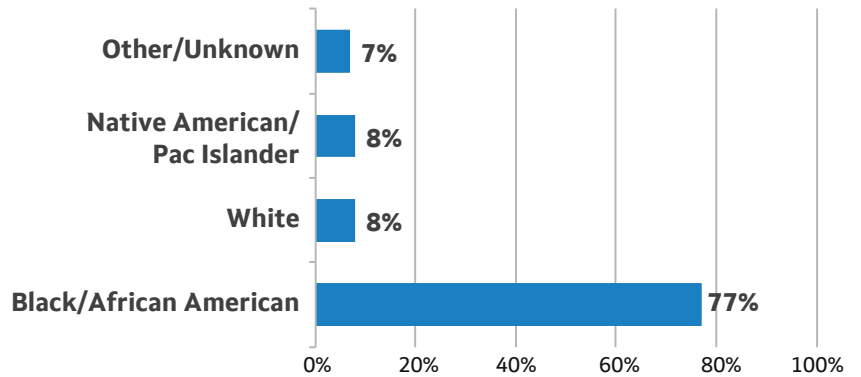
### DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

77% of participants in the Domestic Violence RSVP Docket indentified as Black or African American, 8% White, 8% Asian or Pacific Islander and 7% were unidentified.

### DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RSVP PARTICIPANTS



### DV RSVP PROGRAM RACE DEMOGRAPHICS



### URINALYSIS TEST RESULTS

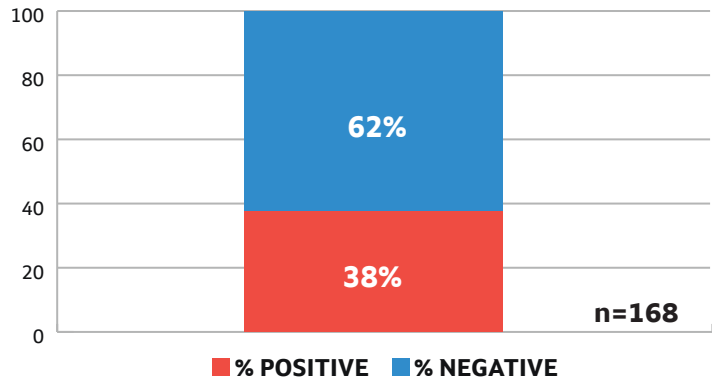
12 participants were tested in FY 24 and of 168 specimens collected 38% were positive.

The drug lab conducted a 9 test panel which included tests for cocaine, alcohol, amphetamines, marijuana, opioids, benzodiazepines, PCP and fentanyl.

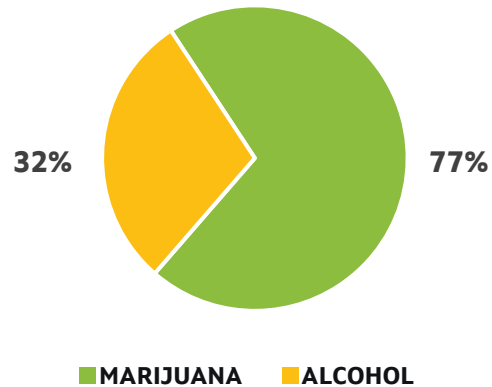
### TYPES OF DRUGS USED AND POSITIVE TESTS

Of the specimens that tested positive, the results indicated that marijuana was the most common drug used by program participants with 77% of positive tests being for marijuana and 32% being for alcohol. Other drugs that resulted in positive test results included PCP, fentanyl and amphetamines.

### DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RSVP URINALYSIS TEST RESULTS

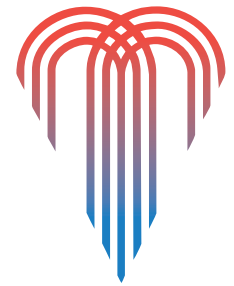


### DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RSVP POSITIVE TESTS





# VETERANS COURT



# KANSAS CITY VETERANS COURT

The City of Kansas City Municipal Court continues its partnership with the Veterans Administration Hospital (VA) to refer veterans who have substance use and/or mental health disorders to treatment as a needed alternative to incarceration. Participants in the program receive treatment and support services through the VA. These services include support groups, case management and court supervision. Veterans also are sponsored by a mentor who coaches and guides them through each stage of the program.

Program participation is for a minimum of one year and is broken out in four phases. Successful completion of the program requires each participant to complete all four levels. Challenge coins are provided each time a participant completes a level.



## Level ONE

(one day at a time) is for 30 days, and successful completion requires:

- Attendance at orientation group
- Assessment/Engagement for treatment
- Weekly Case Manager/Mentor Check-ins
- Weekly court appearances
- 14+ days of negative UA's

## Level TWO

(welcome enjoy the journey) is for 90 days, and successful completion requires:

- Engagement with treatment
- Weekly Case Manager/Mentor Check-ins
- Court appearances every other week
- 60+ days of negative UA's

## Level THREE

(Change) is for 120 days, and successful completion requires:

- Engagement with treatment
- Weekly Case Manager/Mentor Check-ins
- Court appearances as determined by court staff.
- 90+ days of negative UA's

## Level FOUR

(Life is a journey not a Destination) is for 120 days and successful completion requires:

- Employed or volunteer 10 hours/month.
- Bi-monthly Case Manager Check-ins
- Weekly mentor check-ins
- Monthly court appearances
- 120+ days of negative UA's



# VETERANS COURT

## FACT SHEET FY24 (MAY 1, 2023-APRIL 30, 2024)

### VETERANS COURT PARTICIPANTS

At end of FY24, there were 9 individuals actively enrolled in the Veterans Court Program. 8 individuals completed the program requirements and 1 withdrew from the program.

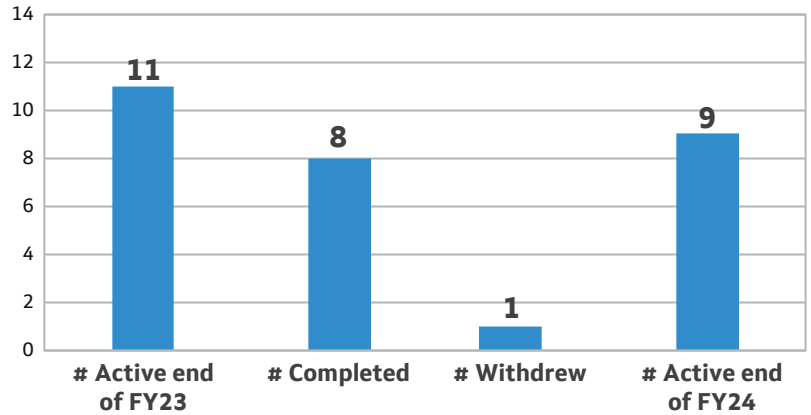
### ADMISSIONS & REFERRALS

In FY24, 18 were referred to the Veterans Court Program and 10 were newly admitted, a slight increase over FY23 as indicated in graph.

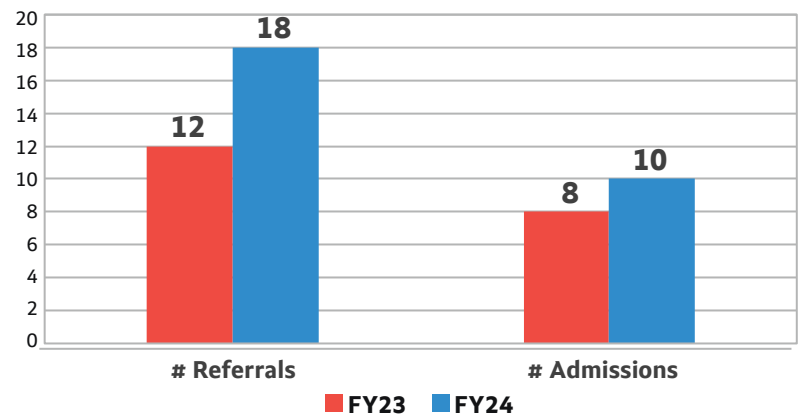
### PROGRAM LEVELS

The following pie chart shows active participants enrolled at each level of the Veterans Court Program at end of the FY24.

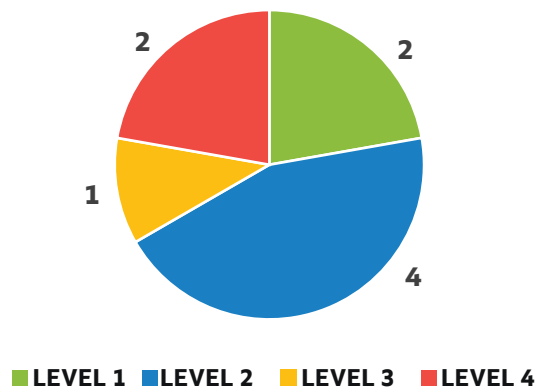
### VETERANS COURT PARTICIPANTS



### VETERANS COURT REFERRALS & ADMISSIONS



### VETERANS COURT PARTICIPANTS BY LEVEL



# VETERANS COURT FACT SHEET

## FY24 (MAY 1, 2023-APRIL 30, 2024)

### DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

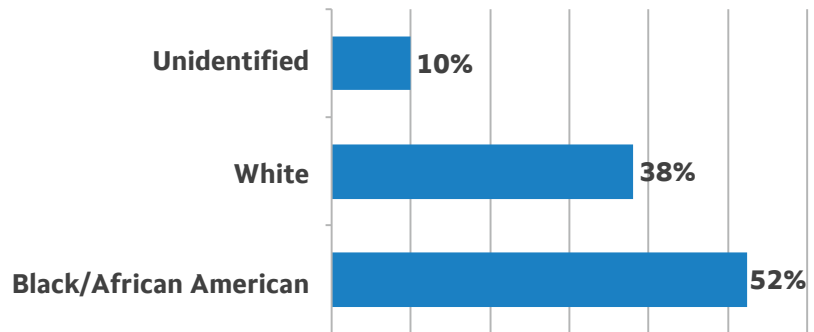
The average age of participants in the Veterans Court Program was 48 and 90% were male for FY24.

52% identified as Black/African American. 38% identified as White and 10% were unidentified or unknown.

### INCENTIVES/SANCTIONS

A total of 322 incentives were distributed for FY24 with majority of these being Fishbowl/VIP incentives. 33 sanctions were handed down for FY24.

### VETERANS COURT RACE DEMOGRAPHICS



Veterans Court	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24
# Incentives	129	174	217	322
# Sanctions	8	35	63	33

### URINALYSIS TEST RESULTS

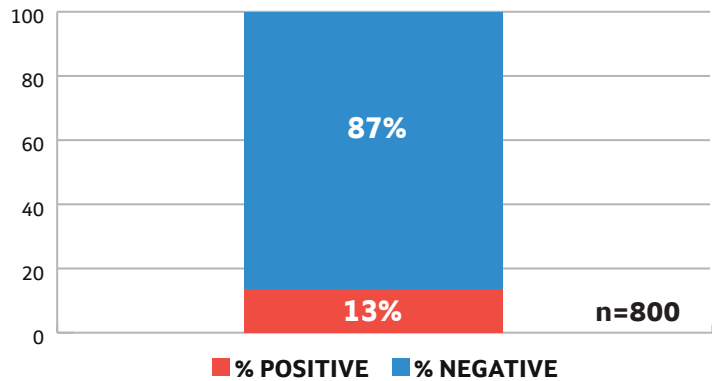
20 participants were tested in FY24 and of 800 specimens collected 13% were positive.

The drug lab conducted a 9 test panel which included tests for cocaine, alcohol, amphetamines, marijuana, opioids, benzodiazepines, PCP and fentanyl.

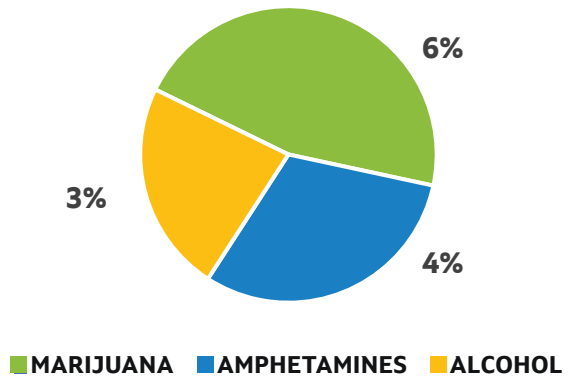
### TYPES OF DRUGS USED AND POSITIVE TESTS

Of the specimens that tested positive, the results indicated that marijuana was the most common drug used by program participants with 6% of positive tests being for marijuana followed by 4% for amphetamines and 3% for alcohol.

### VETERANS COURT URINALYSIS TEST RESULTS



### VETERANS COURT POSITIVE TESTS



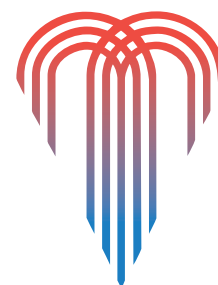


ARDIE A. BLAND  
JUDGE

All payment  
arrangements must  
be made on the  
first floor at the  
Violations Bureau.

Please write down  
your next court date.

# MENTAL HEALTH COURT



# KANSAS CITY MENTAL HEALTH COURT

The Kansas City Mental Health Court established in 2002 allows defendants that suffer from mental health diagnosis an opportunity to complete a 6–12 month treatment program in lieu of sentencing and/or incarceration. Participants are eligible for admittance to the program if they have a qualifying diagnosis which may include Schizophrenia, Bipolar Disorder, Depression, Anxiety, Schizoaffective Disorder and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder.

Partnerships with the Municipal Court, Prosecutor’s Office, Legal Aid and Community Mental Health Centers were set up to administer the program and ensure participants were meeting the requirements of the program.

Charges are dismissed after successful completion of the program. If a participant withdraws or is unsuccessfully discharged from the program, the participant is referred to another courtroom to dispose of the charges



# MENTAL HEALTH COURT

## FACT SHEET FY24 (MAY 1, 2023-APRIL 30, 2024)

### MENTAL HEALTH COURT PARTICIPANTS

69 participants were enrolled in the Mental Health Court Program in FY24. 35 (51%) completed the program, 106 terminated or withdrew from program and 22 were unknown.

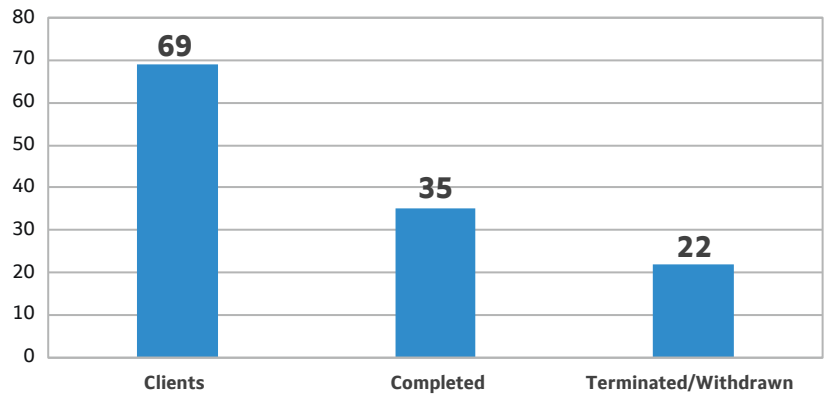
### REFERRALS & ADMISSIONS

114 individuals were referred to the Mental Health Program and 38 (25%) were admitted in FY24.

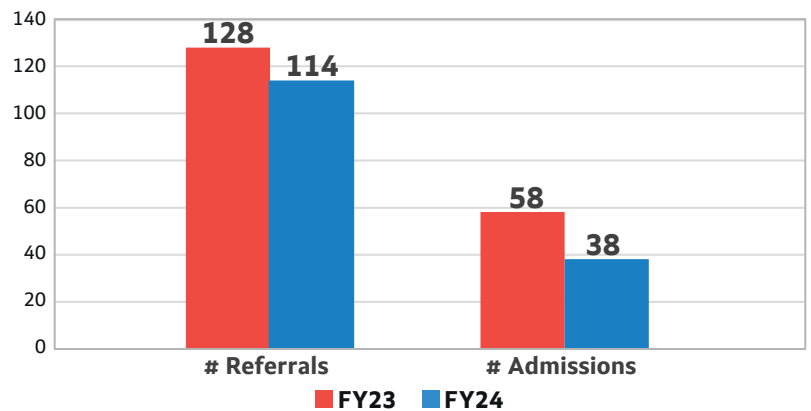
### INCENTIVES/SANCTIONS

340 incentives were handed out and 38 sanctions were given of which 19 were warrants.

### MENTAL HEALTH COURT PARTICIPANTS



### MENTAL HEALTH COURT REFERRALS & ADMISSIONS



# MENTAL HEALTH COURT FACT SHEET

## FY24 (MAY 1, 2023-APRIL 30, 2024)

### DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

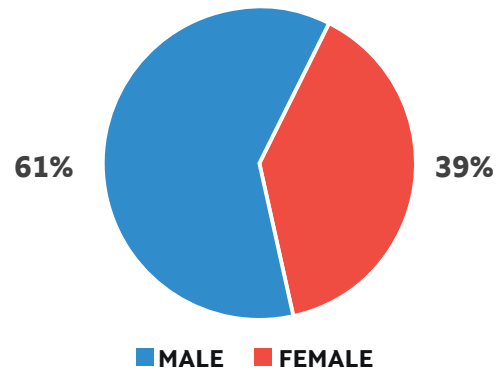
61% of participants in Mental Health Court were male and 39% female in FY24 as shown on pie chart.

65% of program participants identified as being African American/Black, 29% white and 6% were unidentified or unknown.

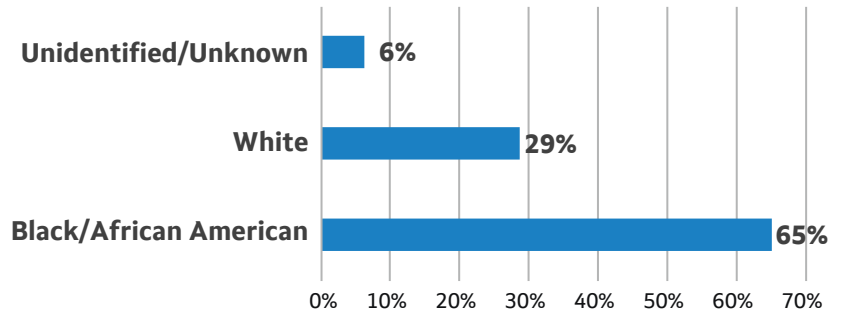
### INCENTIVES/SANCTIONS

A total of 340 incentives were distributed in FY24 with a majority of these being Fishbowl Drawings. 38 sanctions were handed down in FY24 of which 19 were warrants.

### MENTAL HEALTH COURT GENDER DEMOGRAPHICS



### MENTAL HEALTH COURT RACE DEMOGRAPHICS



Mental Health Court	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24
# Incentives	40	99	146	340
# Sanctions	6	17	20	38



### URINALYSIS TEST RESULTS

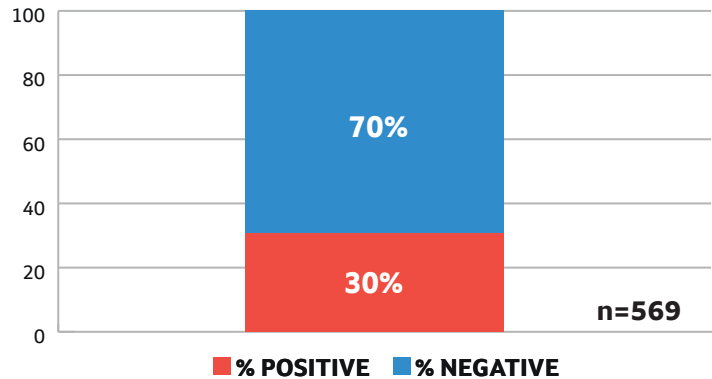
61 participants were tested in FY24 and of 569 specimens collected 30% were positive.

The drug lab conducted a 9-test panel which included tests for cocaine, alcohol, amphetamines, marijuana, opioids, benzodiazepines, PCP and fentanyl.

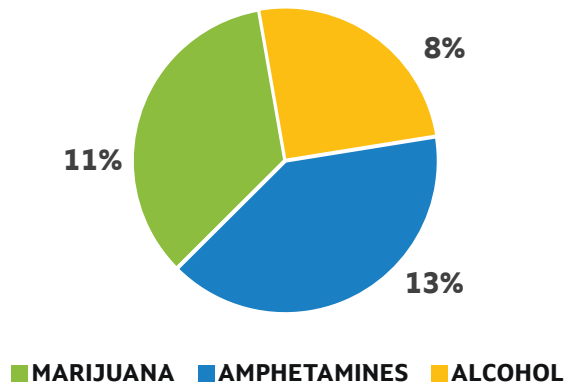
### TYPES OF DRUGS USED

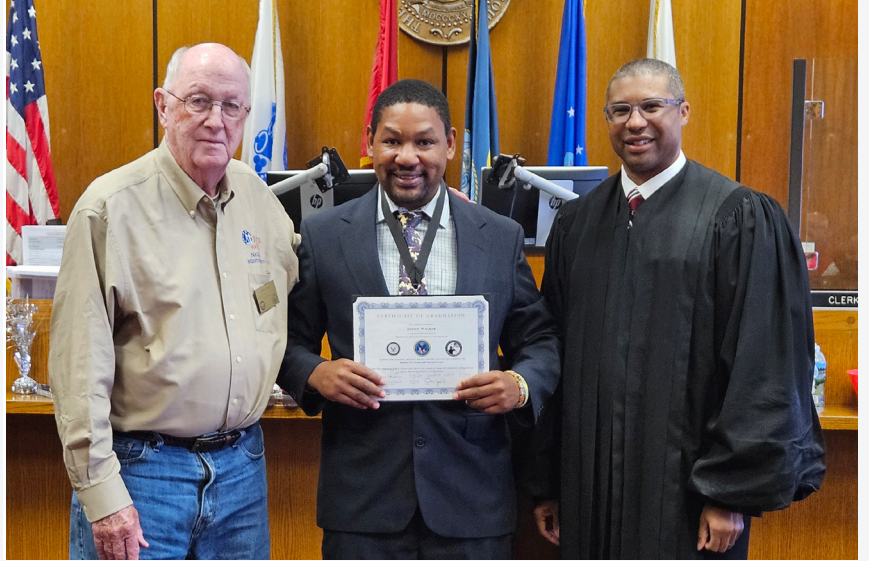
Of the specimens that tested positive, the results indicated that marijuana was the most common drug used by program participants with 13% of positive tests being for amphetamines, followed by 11% for marijuana and 8% for alcohol. Other drugs with positive test results included PCP, cocaine, opioids and fentanyl.

### MENTAL HEALTH COURT URINALYSIS TEST RESULTS



### MENTAL HEALTH COURT POSITIVE TESTS







**16th Judicial Circuit Court of Missouri**

Kansas City Municipal Court Division  
511 E. 11th Street  
Kansas City, Missouri 64106

**Phone:** (816) 513-2700

**Fax:** (816) 513-6782

**Email:** [court@kcmo.org](mailto:court@kcmo.org)

**Website:** [www.kcmo.gov/court](http://www.kcmo.gov/court)

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