

DEPARTMENT OF PROBATION

Ana Bermúdez, Commissioner



WHAT WE DO

The Department of Probation (DOP) helps build stronger and safer communities by working with and supervising people on probation, fostering positive change in their decision-making and behavior and expanding opportunities for them to move out of the criminal and juvenile justice systems through meaningful education, employment, health services, family engagement and civic participation. The Department supplies information and recommendations to the courts on both adult and juvenile cases to help inform sentencing and disposition decisions. In Family Court reports are also provided in family offense, custody, child support, visitation, adoption, and guardianship cases. The Department also uses research-informed practices to work with its clients to foster positive change. In total, the Department of Probation provides intake services, investigations and supervision for more than 55,000 adult and juvenile cases per year, and supervises approximately 24,000 adults and 1,500 juveniles on any given day.

FOCUS ON EQUITY

The Department of Probation is committed to minimizing the adverse collateral consequences of being involved in the criminal and juvenile justice systems. These consequences, which include the inability to obtain meaningful employment, pursue education and access stable housing, impact not just those on probation but also their families and communities. Through service practices grounded in research and partnerships with community-based organizations, DOP fosters personal change, increases opportunities to thrive and strengthens communities, thereby building a more equal, and safer, City.

OUR SERVICES AND GOALS

SERVICE 1 Improve public safety by motivating clients using evidence-based principles and practice.

- Goal 1a Minimize clients' misconduct and non-compliance with the conditions of probation, based on risk level, to improve their chances of completing a probation supervision term successfully.
- Goal 1b Reduce the percentage of probationers who re-offend.

SERVICE 2 Assist all probationers in minimizing contact with the criminal and juvenile justice systems.

- Goal 2a Establish individual action plans and promote early discharge for successful completion of probation conditions and programmatic objectives.
- Goal 2b Maximize the use of diversion services at intake and alternatives-to-placement at disposition for juveniles.

HOW WE PERFORMED

- The rate of adult probationers successfully completing their probation terms increased one percentage point to 65 percent during the first four months of Fiscal 2015. In addition to a higher percentage of clients completing maximum sentences, the improvement was aided by an increase in the rate of clients who were granted an early discharge. The juvenile successful completion rate decreased slightly to 56 percent.
- The average monthly violation rate for adult probationers decreased to 0.8 percent from 0.9 percent in Fiscal 2014. Probation violation proceedings ending in revocation for adult clients increased two percentage points to 47 percent. The average monthly violation rate for juveniles was 2.5 percent, compared to 3.1 percent during the previous fiscal year, and revocations based on violation proceedings decreased from 50 percent to 39 percent. Increased availability of alternative-to-placement programs, as well as DOP's work with local judges and stakeholders during violation proceedings contributed to the improvement in the juvenile revocation rate. The Department continues to utilize a graduated response protocol in both adult and juvenile operations to intervene before misconduct is referred to court, to reduce the incidence of filings for minor rules violations, and more proactively reaches out to probationers in jeopardy of a violation.
- The average monthly re-arrest rates for adult and juvenile probationers increased, consistent with a rise in overall arrests recorded in New York City in Fiscal 2015. The adult rate rose from 3.2 to 3.5 percent, while the juvenile rate increased from 3.4 to 3.8 percent. When viewed as a percentage of all NYPD arrests, adult re-arrests increased to 3.1 percent, from 2.8 percent in Fiscal 2013, and the juvenile rate remained unchanged at 0.3 percent.
- Early discharges represented 13 percent of all adult probation supervision case closings, compared to 11 percent the first four months of Fiscal 2014. The Department continues to prioritize identifying qualified candidates for early discharge based on compliance with the terms of probation and meeting the requirements of individual achievement plans.
- New enrollments of juveniles in alternative-to-placement programs increased 33 percent to 80 in Fiscal 2015. The Department utilizes a structured decision-making grid at sentencing in working with local courts and service providers to identify youth appropriate for community supervision rather than placement at disposition.
- The percentage of juvenile cases eligible for adjustment at intake increased three percentage points to 33 percent during the reporting period. Improved outreach and communication with complainants, and continued collaboration with youths' families, service providers, and stakeholders contributed to the improvement.

SERVICE 1 Improve public safety by motivating clients using evidence-based principles and practice.

Goal 1a Minimize clients' misconduct and non-compliance with the conditions of probation, based on risk level, to improve their chances of completing a probation supervision term successfully.

Performance Indicators	Actual			Target		4-Month Actual	
	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY14	FY15
Successful completion rate for adult probationers (%)	64%	58%	59%	*	*	64%	65%
Successful completion rate for juvenile probationers (%)	62%	58%	60%	*	*	57%	56%
★ Average monthly violation rate for adult probationers (%)	0.9%	0.9%	0.8%	*	*	0.9%	0.8%
★ Average monthly violation rate for juvenile probationers (%)	2.8%	2.7%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.1%	2.5%
Probation violation proceedings ending in revocation for adult probationers (%)	46%	45%	44%	*	*	45%	47%
Probation violation proceedings ending in revocation for juvenile probationers (%)	57%	47%	49%	*	*	50%	39%

★ Critical Indicator "NA" - means Not Available in this report ↕ shows desired direction

Goal 1b Reduce the percentage of probationers who re-offend.

Performance Indicators	Actual			Target		4-Month Actual	
	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY14	FY15
★Adult probationer rearrest rate (monthly average) (%)	3.0%	3.1%	3.2%	3.0%	3.0%	3.2%	3.5%
★Adult probationers arrested citywide as a percentage of the NYPD arrest report (monthly average)	2.6%	2.8%	2.9%	2.6%	2.6%	2.8%	3.1%
★Juvenile probationer rearrest rate (monthly average) (%)	2.9%	2.7%	3.5%	2.6%	2.6%	3.4%	3.8%
★Juvenile probationers arrested citywide as a percentage of the NYPD arrest report (monthly average)	0.3%	0.2%	0.3%	*	*	0.3%	0.3%

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SERVICE 2 Assist all probationers in minimizing contact with the criminal and juvenile justice systems.

Goal 2a Establish individual action plans and promote early discharge for successful completion of probation conditions and programmatic objectives.

Performance Indicators	Actual			Target		4-Month Actual	
	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY14	FY15
Adult probationer early discharge rate (%)	17%	12%	11%	*	*	11%	13%

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Goal 2b Maximize the use of diversion services at intake and alternatives-to-placement at disposition for juveniles.

Performance Indicators	Actual			Target		4-Month Actual	
	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY14	FY15
New enrollments in alternative-to-placement (ATP) programs	NA	194	167	*	*	60	80
Total probationers supervised in Enhanced Supervision Program (ESP)	1,158	977	738	*	*	532	391
★Juvenile delinquency cases eligible for adjustment (%)	37.0%	34.0%	28.0%	32.0%	32.0%	30.0%	33.0%
- low-risk (%)	NA	47.0%	37.0%	*	*	40.0%	42.0%
- medium-risk (%)	NA	16.0%	12.0%	*	*	16.0%	11.0%
- high-risk (%)	NA	8.0%	7.0%	*	*	7.0%	5.0%

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AGENCY CUSTOMER SERVICE

Performance Indicators	Actual			Target		4-Month Actual	
	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY14	FY15
Customer Experience							
Completed requests for interpretation	18,764	16,505	16,520	*	*	NA	NA
Letters responded to in 14 days (%)	100%	97%	77%	*	*	65%	100%
E-mails responded to in 14 days (%)	100%	100%	100%	*	*	100%	100%

AGENCY RESOURCES

Resource Statistics	Actual			Sept. 2014 MMR Plan	Updated Plan	Plan	4-Month Actual	
	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	FY15 ¹	FY16 ¹	FY14	FY15
Expenditures (\$000,000) ²	\$79.7	\$81.7	\$83.2	\$89.9	\$99.6	\$90.8	\$33.6	\$36.0
Revenues (\$000)	\$266	\$268	\$282	\$302	\$302	\$302	\$89	\$107
Personnel	976	952	960	1,015	1,073	1,027	956	959
Overtime paid (\$000)	\$184	\$404	\$445	\$534	\$534	\$534	\$92	\$91

¹February 2015 Financial Plan ²Expenditures include all funds. "NA" - Not Available in this report

NOTEWORTHY CHANGES, ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS

- Previously reported data for the indicator Juvenile Operations indicator 'Successful Completion Rate for Juvenile Probationers (%)' was revised from 62 percent to 57 percent for the first four months of Fiscal 2014. A data reconciliation project associated with DOP's planned replacement of its existing automated case management system resulted in this revision.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

For more information on the agency, please visit: www.nyc.gov/dop.