

Accountability Courts Statewide Report

Fiscal Year 2021



January 10, 2022

Council of Accountability Court Judges of Georgia

At the end of fiscal year 2021, there were **173** accountability courts and program tracks:

52 Adult Felony Drug Courts
2,462 Participants

37 Mental Health Courts
869 Participants

24 DUI Courts
860 Participants

22 Veterans Courts
235 Participants

24 Family Treatment Courts
351 Participants

14 Juvenile Courts
113 Participants



Executive Summary

Georgia's accountability courts seek to provide an evidence-based and cost-saving alternative to incarceration. In Fiscal Year 2021 (FY2021), participants in Council of Accountability Court Judges' (CACJ) certified programs engaged in individualized treatment plans that demonstrably impacted their lives¹.

In FY2021, accountability courts continued to admit and provide treatment to participants even in the midst of a pandemic. This report highlights the progress courts have made in balancing the needs of participants while also taking public safety protocols into account. A consistent theme for FY2021 has been a steady return to in-person services and "paving new roads to recovery" as represented by CACJ's 2020 annual training conference.

These data should be interpreted within the context of the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic and data integrity efforts.

Participant Characteristics at Entry

Average age at admission

37 years old

Income level

80% earning less than \$25,000 annually

Unemployment level

48% Unemployed at entry

Education level at entry

81% High School Diploma/GED or Less

Gender

66% Male

Acceptance type

52% Post-adjudication/28% Pre-adjudication
(DUI Court participants are 100% post-adjudication)

Risk level

92% Moderate or High Risk

Diagnosis/Diagnostic impression

77% Substance Use Disorder

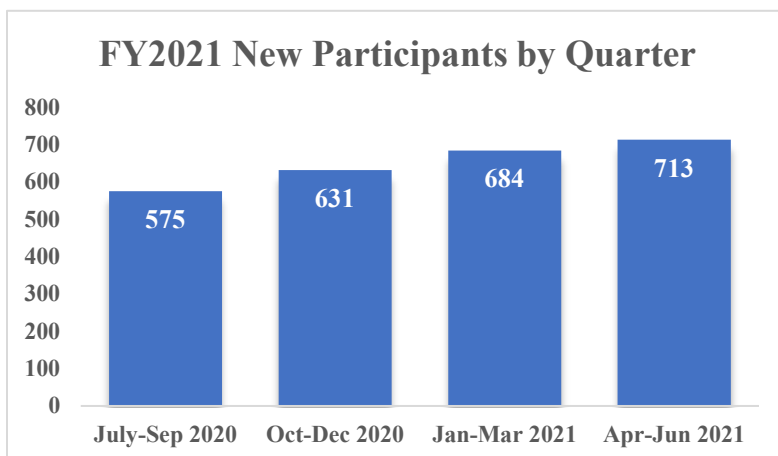
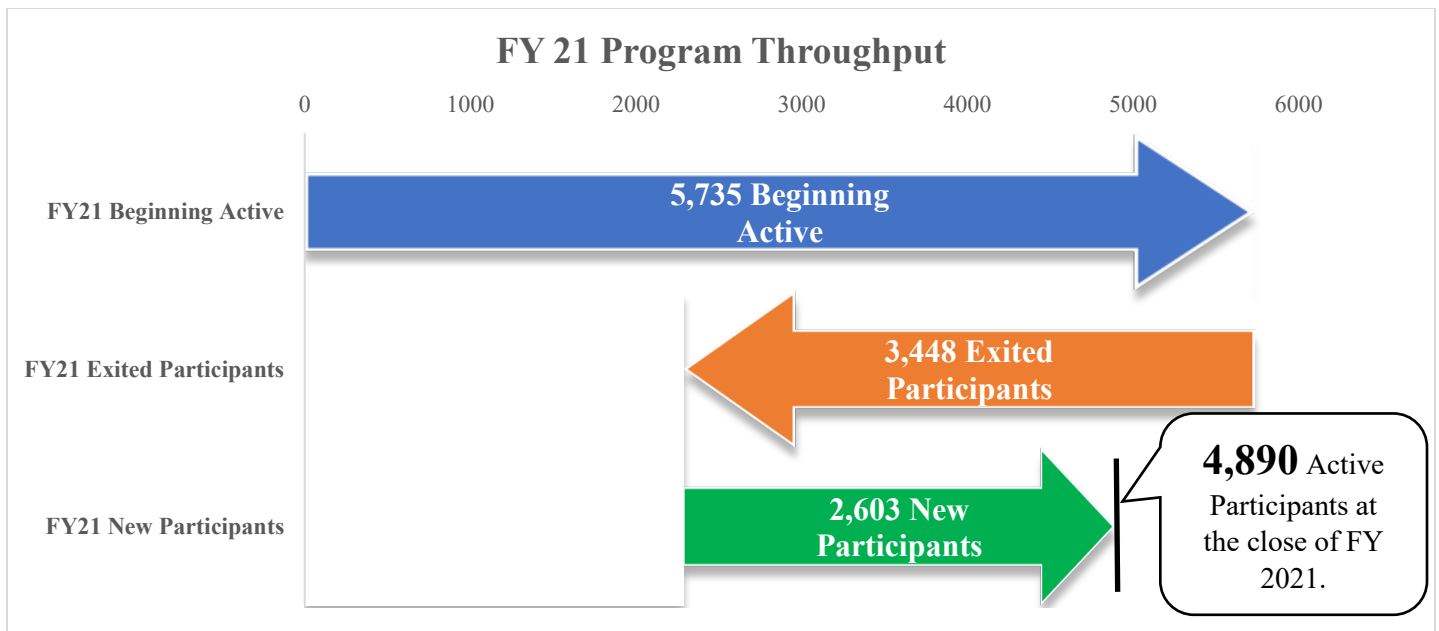
Race

65% White

Drug testing

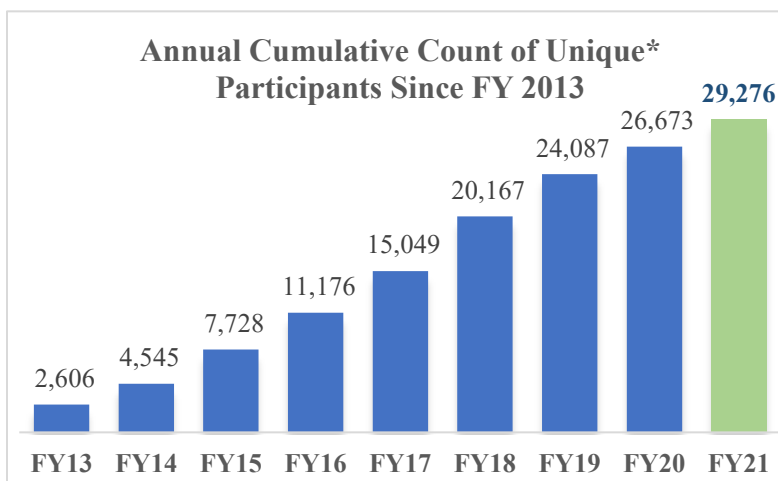
93.7% Negative Test Rate

The analysis and conclusions contained in this document are accurate as of the date retrieved (November 28, 2021) and may not match previous or future publications due to additional reports and/or corrections to previous reporting.



8,338 participants served throughout FY2021 including new, active, and exited participants. Accountability court programs steadily added more participants with each passing quarter FY2021, even amidst the ongoing pandemic.

Of the 3,448 exited participants, the number of graduated/completed participants increased 3% compared to the previous year.



2,603 new participants in FY2021

8,338 participants served despite the impact of COVID-19

*Unique participant counts are also the “throughput” figure – Number of active participants at FY start + New participants for that fiscal year.

Drug Testing Promotes Sobriety

543,357

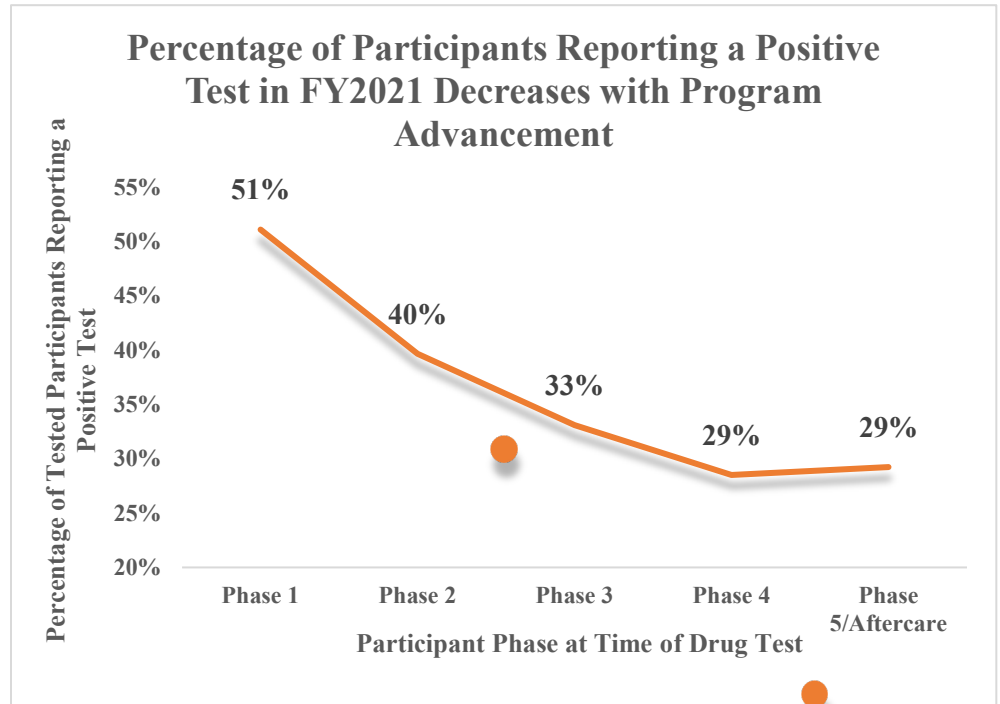
Total Drug Tests Administered

34,049

Positive Drug Tests

93.7%

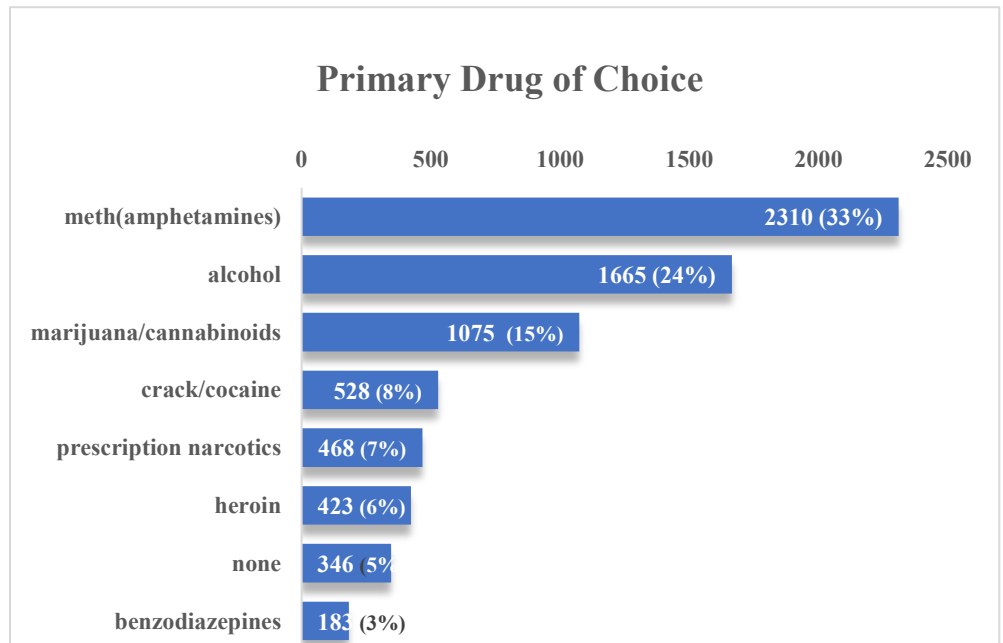
Negative Test Rate



Drug of Choice

The most frequently reported primary drug of choice for FY 2021 was meth(amphetamines), followed by alcohol and marijuana.

In DUI Courts, alcohol was the most commonly reported primary drug of choice.



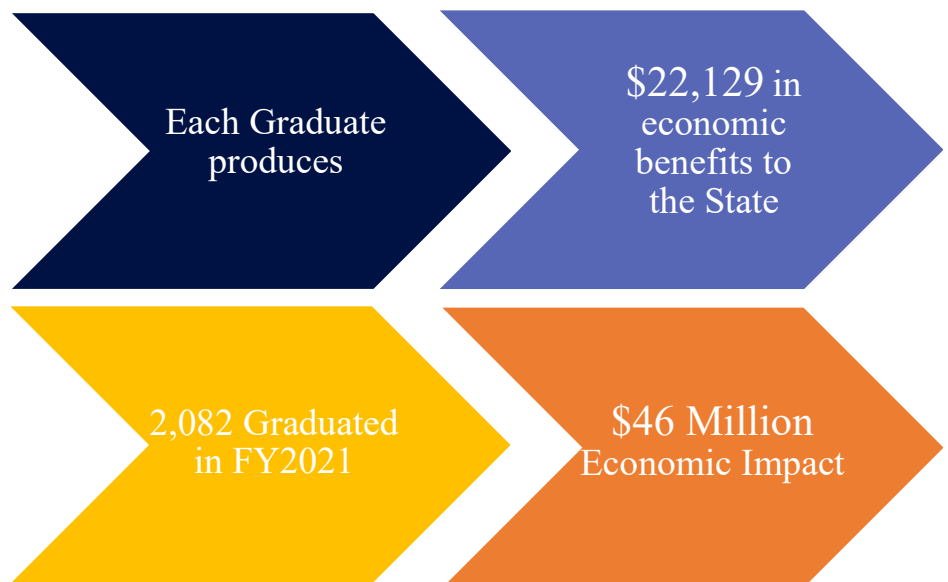
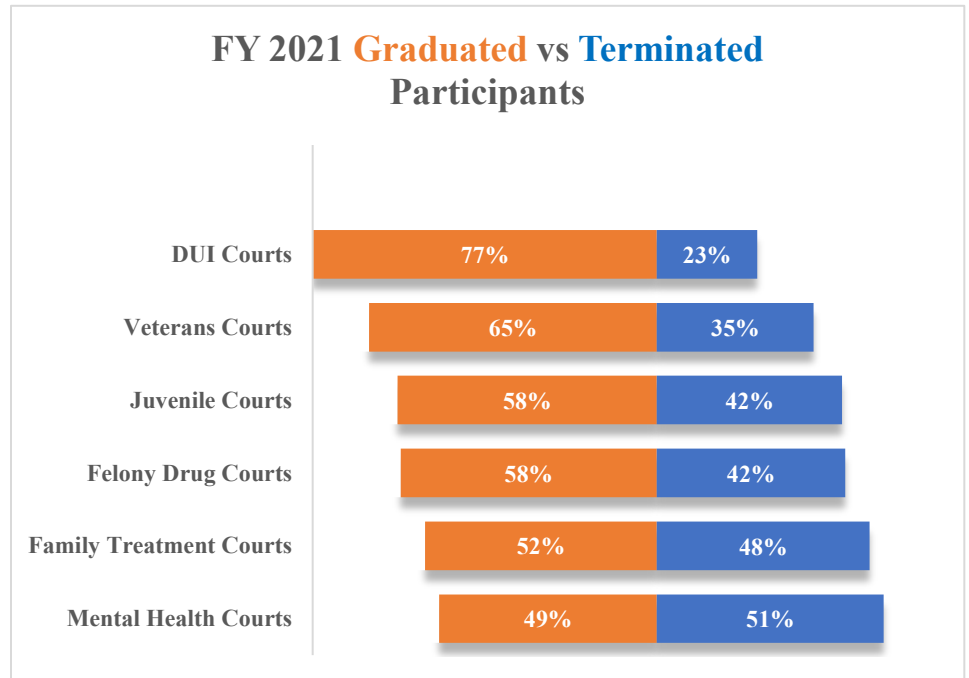
Participant Outcomes

Across all program types, **61%** of the participants that exited in FY2021 were graduates.

Combined FY2021 Exit Statuses:

2,082 Graduated/Completed
1,359 Discharged/Terminated

*Research links graduated participants with reduced levels of recidivism compared with terminated participants.**



Each graduate produces \$22,129 in economic impact to the state.*
FY2021 graduates netted estimated total economic benefits of \$46 million.

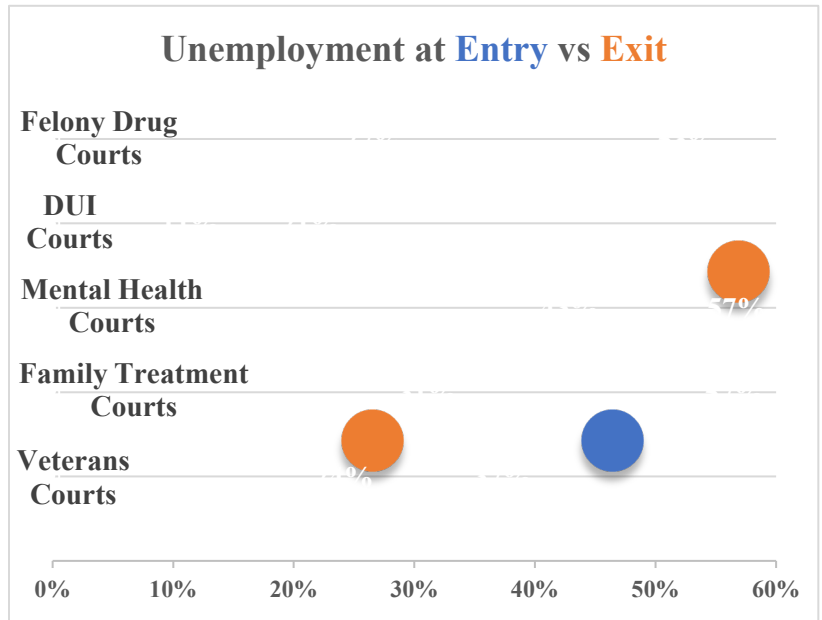
**Research Conducted by CACJ and CJCC (2013-2018).*

Employment at Graduation

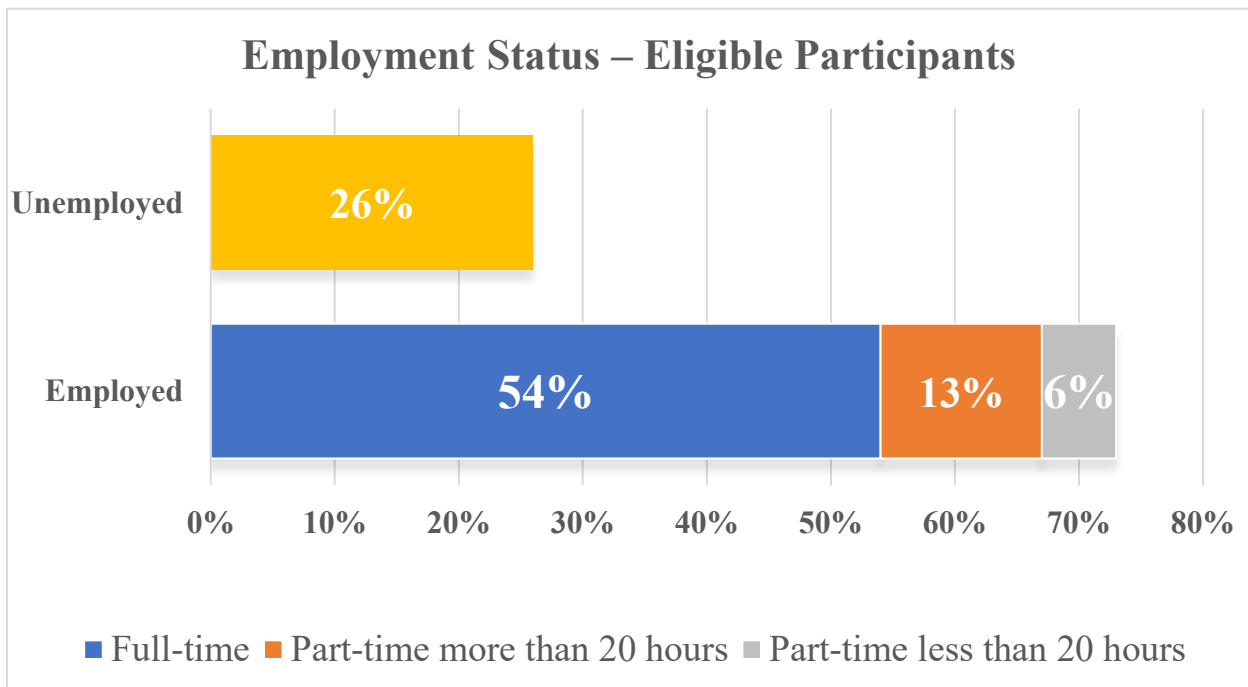
Employment at graduation is a key objective of program participation and a data element that is statutorily mandated for reporting.

Participants who **exited** an accountability court program in FY2021 were more likely to be employed than when they **entered** the program.

Excluding Juvenile Courts, 26% of all participants who exited an accountability court program in FY2021, and only 13% of the participants who graduated, were unemployed*. This includes all exit types regardless of program completion. Combined, over half of these participants were reported to be unemployed at entry.



72% of the eligible participants are employed**
54% work full-time



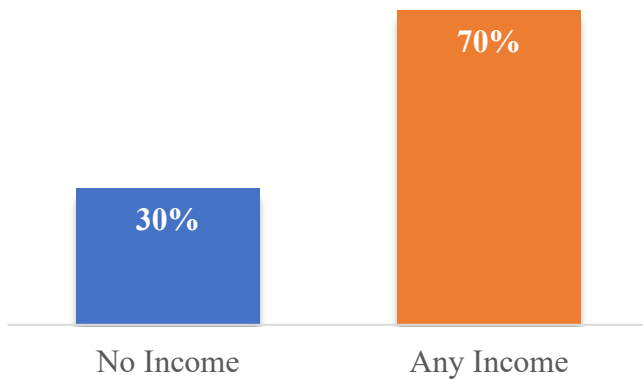
*Unemployment figures include participants reported as “unemployed” only.

**Eligible participants are those who do not have a disability that could prevent them from working.

Economic and Social Impact



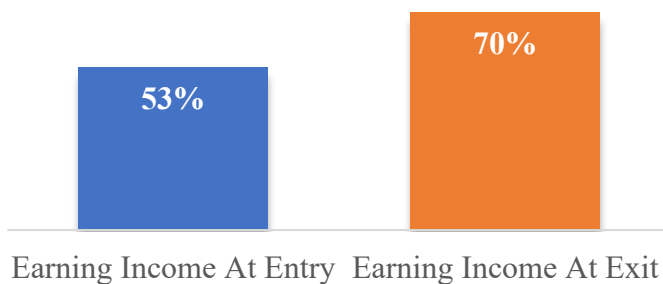
Percentage of Active Participants with Income



70% of active participants earn an income

50% earn more than \$20,000 per year

Income for FY2021 Exiting Participants



82% of FY2021 graduates earn an income at graduation

59% of FY2021 graduates were earning an income at entry

74 Families Reunified



Families reunified in FY2021 will benefit from increased stability and better economic prospects.

25 Drug-Free Babies Born



Each additional baby born drug free saves an average of \$63,200 in delivery and medical costs. Therefore, in FY2021, Georgia saved over \$1.5 million.

FY2021 Accountability Courts and Program Tracks

Court Name

Alapaha Circuit Drug and Mental Health Court
Appalachian Circuit Adult Felony Drug Court
Appalachian Circuit H.E.L.P. Court
Appalachian Circuit Veterans Court
Appalachian Judicial Circuit Family Treatment Court
Appalachian Juvenile Drug Court
Athens-Clarke County DUI Court
Athens-Clarke County Family Treatment Court
Atlantic Judicial Circuit Drug Court
Atlantic Judicial Circuit Family Treatment Court
Atlantic Judicial Circuit Veterans Court
Augusta Judicial Circuit Adult Felony Drug Court
Augusta Judicial Circuit Mental Health Court
Augusta Judicial Circuit Veterans Court
Barrow County Drug Court
Bartow Family Treatment Court
Blue Ridge Judicial Circuit Drug Accountability Court
Brunswick Judicial Circuit Drug Court
Burke County DUI/Drug Court
Carroll County Drug Court
Carroll County Family Treatment Court
Carroll County Juvenile Wellness Court
Chatham County DUI Court
Chatham County Family Treatment Court
Chatham County Juvenile Mental Health Court (SPARC)
Cherokee County DUI/Drug Treatment Court - Drug
Cherokee County DUI/Drug Treatment Court - DUI
Cherokee County Juvenile Drug Accountability Court
Cherokee County Treatment Accountability Court
Cherokee County Veterans Treatment Court
Cherokee Judicial Circuit Drug Court
Clayton County Adult Felony Drug Court
Clayton County Adult Mental Health Court
Clayton County Driving Under the Influence
Clayton County Veterans Treatment Court
Cobb County Drug Court
Cobb County DUI Court
Cobb County Family Treatment Court
Cobb County Juvenile Drug Treatment Court
Cobb County Mental Health Court
Cobb County Veterans Accountability and Treatment Court
Colquitt County Accountability Court

Conasauga Drug Court
Conasauga Mental Health Court
Cordele Circuit Adult Felony Drug Court
Coweta County Drug Court
Coweta County DUI Court
Coweta County Family Treatment Court
Coweta Judicial Circuit Mental Health Court
Coweta Veterans Treatment Court
Dawson County Family Treatment Court
Dawson County HELP Program
Dawson County Treatment Court (Drug/DUI)
DeKalb County Drug Court
DeKalb County DUI Court Program
DeKalb County Felony Mental Health Court
DeKalb County Juvenile Court- Journey Mental Health Court
DeKalb County Juvenile Court-Family Dependency Treatment Court
DeKalb County Juvenile Court-Rebound Drug Treatment Court
DeKalb County Veterans Treatment Court
DeKalb Misdemeanor Mental Health Court
Dodge County Adult Felony Drug Court
Dougherty Superior Court MH/SA Treatment Program
Douglas Circuit Accountability Courts - Drug
Douglas Circuit Accountability Courts - HOPE
Douglas Circuit Accountability Courts - Veterans
Douglas County Family Treatment Court
Douglas County State DUI/Drug Court - Drug Track
Douglas County State DUI/Drug Court - DUI Track
Dublin Judicial Circuit Mental Health and Veterans Treatment Court
Enotah Family Treatment Court
Enotah Mental Health Court
Fayette County DUI Court
Fayette County Veterans Treatment Court
Forsyth County CARE Program
Forsyth County Drug Court
Forsyth County DUI Court
Forsyth County Family Treatment Court
Fulton County Adult Felony Drug Court
Fulton County Behavioral Health Treatment Court
Fulton County DUI Treatment Court
Fulton County Juvenile Drug Court - CHOICES Program
Fulton County Juvenile Family Dependency Treatment Court - HOPE Program
Fulton County Misdemeanor Mental Health Court
Fulton County Veterans Treatment Court
Griffin Judicial Circuit Adult Felony Drug Court
Gwinnett County Drug Court
Gwinnett County DUI Court

Gwinnett County Family Treatment Court
Gwinnett County Juvenile Drug Treatment Court
Gwinnett County Mental Health Court
Gwinnett County State Court Veterans Intervention Program
Gwinnett County Superior Court Veterans Court
Hall County Drug Court
Hall County DUI Court
Hall County Family Treatment Court
Hall County HELP Program
Hall County HELP Program - Veterans Track
Henry County Adult Felony Drug Court
Henry County DUI/Drug Court
Henry County Juvenile Mental Health Court
Henry County Resource Court
Henry County Veterans Treatment Court
Houston Mental Health Court
Jackson County Drug Court
Jefferson County Adult Felony Drug Court
Juvenile Drug Court of Muscogee County
Liberty County DUI Court
Lookout Mountain Drug Court
Lookout Mountain Judicial Circuit Mental Health Court
Lowndes County Accountability Court
Lowndes County DUI Court
Lowndes County Juvenile Accountability Court
Macon Judicial Circuit Drug Court
Macon Judicial Circuit Mental Health Court
Macon Judicial Circuit Veterans Treatment Court
Mountain Adult Felony Drug Court
Mountain Judicial Circuit Family Treatment Court
Mountain Mental Health Court
Muscogee County Adult Drug Court
Muscogee County Family Drug Court
Muscogee County Mental Health Court
Muscogee County Veterans Treatment Court
Newton and Walton County Mental Health Court - Newton County
Newton and Walton County Mental Health Court - Walton County
Newton County Adult Felony Drug Court
Newton County Dependency Family Treatment Court
Newton County Juvenile Mental Health Court
Newton County Veterans Treatment Court
North Enotah Felony Drug Court
Northern Judicial Circuit Adult Felony Drug Court
Ocmulgee Circuit Adult Treatment Court Collaborative- Mental Health Division
Ocmulgee Circuit Adult Treatment Court Collaborative- Substance Abuse Division
Ocmulgee Judicial Circuit Family Treatment Court

Ogeechee Judicial Circuit Drug Court
Ogeechee Judicial Circuit Mental Health Court
Pataula Adult Felony Drug Court
Paulding Judicial Circuit Drug Court
Paulding Judicial Circuit Mental Health Court
Piedmont Circuit Mental Health Court
Piedmont Circuit Veterans Court
Richmond County DUI and Veterans Court - DUI
Richmond County DUI and Veterans Court - Vet
Rockdale County Adult Drug Court
Rockdale County DUI Court
Rockdale County Family Treatment Court
Rockdale County Juvenile Resource Court - Drug Track
Rockdale County Juvenile Resource Court - MH Track
Rockdale County Resource Court
Rome Circuit Mental Health Court
Rome/Floyd County Drug Court
Savannah Chatham County Drug Court with Veterans Division
Savannah-Chatham Mental Health Court
South Enotah Felony Drug Court
South Georgia Judicial Circuit Accountability Court
Southwestern Judicial Circuit Accountability Court
Spalding County Mental Health/Veterans Treatment Court
Tallapoosa Drug Intervention Program
Tallapoosa Family Treatment Court
Tallapoosa Mental Health Court
Tift County DUI-Drug Court
Tifton Judicial Circuit Accountability Courts
Toombs Judicial Circuit Adult Felony Drug Court
Towaliga Accountability Courts
Troup County DUI/Drug Court
Troup County Family Treatment Court
Troup County Felony Adult Drug Court
Waycross Judicial Circuit Accountability Court - Drug Track
Waycross Judicial Circuit Accountability Court - Mental Health Track
Western Judicial Circuit Felony Drug Court
Western Judicial Circuit Treatment and Accountability Court
Western Judicial Circuit Veterans Treatment Court