
**DRIVING WHILE IMPAIRED (DWI) SUBSTANCE ABUSE
SERVICES REPORT
G.S. 122C – 142.1**

Prepared for:

***NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY
JOINT LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION ON
GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS***



February 2013

**NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services**

INTRODUCTION

The report is a summary of data from the DWI substance abuse services Certificate of Completion (DMH-508-R) forms submitted within the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012.

G.S. 122C – 142.1 (i) defines the information to be included in this report on substance abuse services for those convicted of Driving While Impaired or Driving While Less Than 21 Years Old After Consuming Alcohol Or Other Drugs. That information is as follows:

(1) The number of persons required to obtain a certificate of completion during the previous fiscal year as a condition of restoring the person's driver's license under G.S. 20-17.6.

The following data was obtained from the NC Judicial Branch - Administrative Office of the Courts Management and Information Services - for individuals convicted of impaired driving offenses during SFY 2011-2012. There were 68,255 impaired driving charges reported. Of those, the total number of individuals convicted for an impaired driving offense was 41,597. The percentage of impaired driving cases resulting in conviction in this report is about 61%. The remaining 26,658 cases, or about 39%, were not convicted either by being found not guilty; no probable cause; voluntary dismissal by the prosecutor; voluntary dismissal with leave; or guilty of a charge other than impaired driving.

Of those convicted of an impaired driving offense, 368 cases were convicted as Habitual DWI. A 2009 amendment to the NC General Statute allows individuals with Habitual convictions to be considered for re-licensure after a ten year period without traffic or criminal convictions. The number of cases requiring a Certificate of Completion as a condition of restoring their driver's license is 41,229. This number excludes the habitual convictions.

CONVICTIONS SFY 2011-2012	
DWI (Levels 1-2)	9,319
DWI (Levels 3-5)	28,807
DWI (aid and abet)	17
Driving after consuming under age 21	3,067
DWI (commercial vehicle)	19
Habitual DWI*	368
TOTAL	41,597

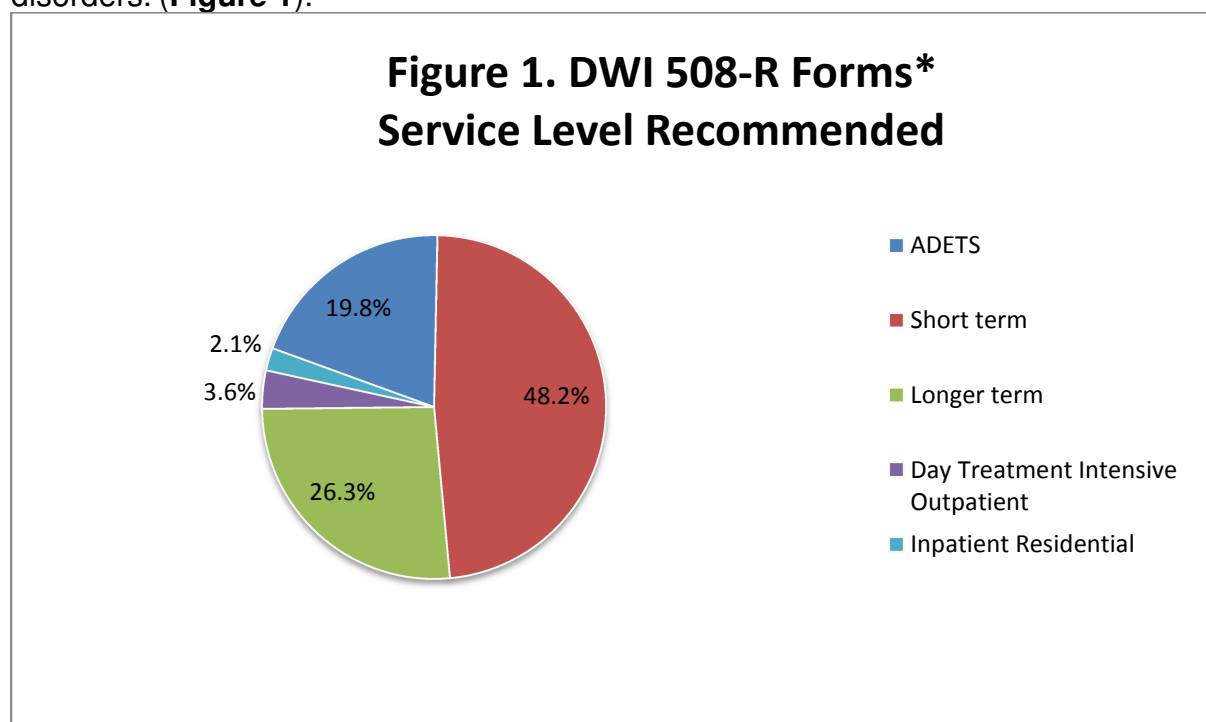
*excluded from total cases requiring a Certificate of Completion (DMH-508-R).

(2) The number of substance abuse assessments conducted during the previous fiscal year for the purpose of obtaining a certificate of completion.

During this report period, 53,937 Certificate of Completions (DMH-508-R) were submitted to verify that a clinical substance abuse assessment was completed as required by law.

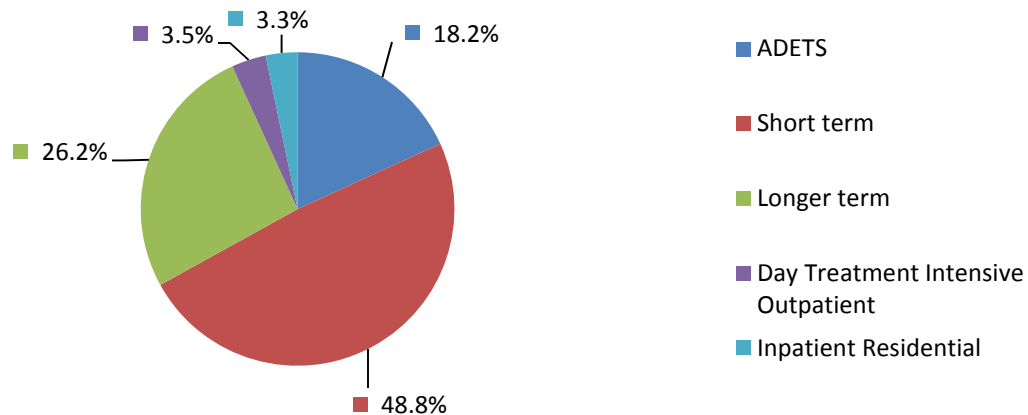
(3) Of the number of assessments reported under subdivision (2) of this subsection, the number recommending attendance at an ADET school, the number recommending treatment for a substance use disorder, and for those recommending treatment, the level of treatment recommended.

Of the 53,937 assessments reported, 10,658 or 19.8% recommended an ADETS program and the remainder recommended treatment. The total percentage of individuals with DWI offenses being recommended to attend treatment services for a substance use disorder was 80%. Approximately 30% of individuals assessed had a diagnosis of substance dependence. The most common diagnoses were alcohol abuse and alcohol dependence at 69% of the total. The most common substance after alcohol is still cannabis. Other common substances included: cocaine and opiates and then sedatives. Overall, about 11% of those assessed had a diagnosis involving a substance other than alcohol. About 6% of the cases had multiple substance use disorders. (Figure 1).



(4) Of the number of persons recommended for an ADET School or treatment for a substance use disorder, under subdivision (3) of this subsection, the number who completed the school or treatment. Of the individuals who were assessed, 32,594 or 60%, completed treatment or education (Figure 2 on next page).

**Figure 2. DWI 508-R Forms*
Service Level Completed**



(5) The number of substance abuse assessments conducted by each facility and, of these assessments, the number that recommended attendance at an ADET school and the number that recommended treatment for a substance use disorder.

The number of DWI-related substance abuse assessments conducted by 416 facilities in SFY 2011-2012 was 53,937. The recommended services in 10,652 cases was ADETS and in 43,285 cases was substance abuse treatment.

Attachment A is an accounting of DWI assessments conducted by each authorized facility in SFY 2011-2012 and their recommendations to ADETS or treatment for a substance use disorder.

(6) The fees paid to a facility for providing services for persons to obtain a certificate of completion and the facility's costs in providing those services.

The DWI substance abuse assessment fee is \$100.00. The fee for the standardized ADETS program is \$160.00. Both fees are set by NC General Statute and are paid to the facility providing the service. For those attending treatment for a substance use disorder, a minimum payment of \$75.00 is also required by statute. Service providers typically charge additional fees for treatment. The average cost for short term outpatient treatment for substance use disorders is about \$360.00 at \$18.00 per hour; this service is a minimum of 20 hours of counseling. The average cost for longer term treatment is about \$600.00 for a minimum of 40 hours of counseling; this reflects a rate of \$15.00 per hour. Day treatment is provided at an average of \$8.00 an hour.