



# The Drug Court Metrics Playbook

What to Track & Why It Matters  
A Data Strategy Guide for  
Recovery-Focused Court Teams

## Why Drug Courts Need This

Drug Courts operate at the intersection of justice and treatment. Their mission is not only to enforce accountability but to support recovery by addressing the underlying drivers of substance use. Supervision alone isn't enough.

To improve participant outcomes and strengthen public trust, Drug Courts must rely on timely, targeted data—that reflects clinical progress, behavioral change, and sustainable recovery.

This playbook outlines a set of operationally grounded performance metrics that can help court teams:

- Inform policy and practice
- Tailor treatment engagement
- Validate outcomes to funders and stakeholders

## Core Metrics That Matter

Focus Area	Key Metrics	Why It's Critical
Initial Engagement	Days to Acceptance (by risk & referral type)	Delays reduce engagement and increase dropout risk. Timely stabilization is key.
Treatment Adherence	Missed sessions, positive tests, dosage changes	Identifies early disengagement and recovery challenges—guides individualized support planning.
Program Duration	Total time in program by risk tier	One-size-fits-all timelines don't work. Duration should match clinical and recovery needs.
Phase Movement	Days per phase (Stabilization, Treatment, Maintenance)	Reveals progression issues and potential sanction/incentive misalignment.
Relapse Monitoring	Time to first recurrence; total recurrences	Tracks not just setbacks, but recovery momentum and resilience.
Post-Exit Outcomes	Time to reoffense or reentry into services	Measures long-term impact of the program, not just graduation.



## Insights These Metrics Unlock

These aren't just numbers—they're tools for real-time decision-making and clinical improvement:

### Uncover Intervention Gaps

Where do participants tend to stall—in stabilization, or at re-entry?

### Identify High-Risk Relapse Patterns

Who relapses early? What's their phase, risk level?

### Compare Peer Benchmarks

How do outcomes vary across risk groups? Are lower-risk participants progressing as expected?

### Track Real Recovery

Graduation is a milestone, not the goal. Long-term stability is the true measure of success.

## Turning Metrics Into Real-Time Action

eMoksha's Drug Court Analytics Services enable court teams to move from tracking to transforming:

Build real-time dashboards to monitor engagement, risk flags, and relapse indicators

01

02

Apply predictive analytics to identify participants likely to disengage

Design treatment-duration benchmarks by clinical need and resource availability

03

04

Generate funder-aligned outcome reports that demonstrate impact with credibility

## A Foundation for Stronger Recovery & Safer Communities

With a focused analytics strategy, Drug Courts can:

01

Stabilize individuals faster

02

Personalize treatment by risk and progress

03

Reduce relapse rates and improve accountability

04

Provide evidence-based ROI to funders and community leaders

### Next Steps

This playbook is your blueprint. If your Drug Court is ready to move from basic program tracking to transformational, participant-focused outcomes, eMoksha is ready to help.

Connect with us to explore how your data can unlock better recovery—and better justice



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