



# Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services 2012 PUBLIC SAFETY SUMMARY

January 2013

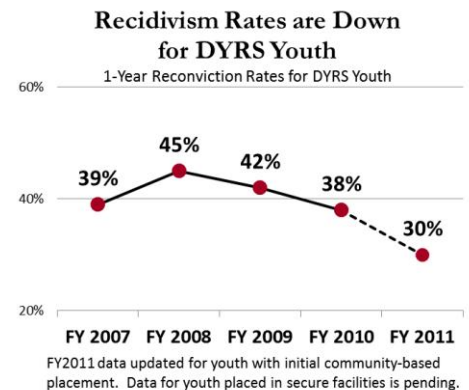
The Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services (DYRS) is committed to promoting public safety through the effective rehabilitation of the youth in its care. Through effective engagement, proper supervision and appropriate treatment, DYRS has a role in guiding court-involved youth toward better decision-making. The data for calendar year 2012 show clear and significant public safety gains for DYRS youth.

## OVERALL RECIDIVISM CONTINUES ITS DOWNWARD TREND

A key indicator of successful rehabilitation is having a low percentage of court-involved youth who are convicted of a new offense within their first year of community placement. This percentage is known as the recidivism rate. Recidivism is falling, from 45% in FY2008 to 38% in FY2010. The initial FY2011 recidivism data, for youth whose first placement was in the community, is even lower, at 30%.

For youth initially placed at New Beginnings Youth Development Center the FY2010 recidivism rate was 35%, down from the FY2008 mark of 51%, which represents the final year cohort to pass through Oak Hill, New Beginnings' predecessor facility.

Similarly, recidivism rates for youth in initial community placements have dropped by 13% since DYRS's flagship community-based service initiative, DC YouthLink, was launched in FY2010.

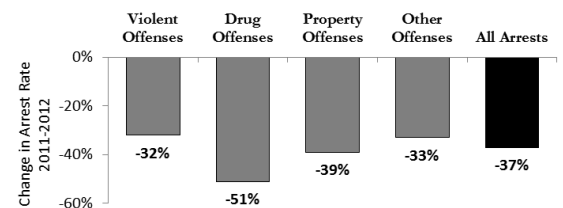


## ARREST RATES ARE DOWN

Fewer DYRS youth are being re-arrested and as a result DYRS youth represent a significantly smaller portion of overall arrests in the District. Comparing 2012 to 2011, the overall re-arrest rate for DYRS youth is down by 37%. This is true across all major offense categories:

- Violent offenses (-32%)
  - Robberies (-43%)
- Drug offenses (-51%)
- Property Offenses (-44%)
- Other Offenses (-33%)

## **Re-Arrest Rates are Down for DYRS Youth, 2011 to 2012**



Even accounting for the 13% decrease in the number of youth under DYRS supervision during this period, the trends in arrest rates are still downward. As a result, even as arrest rates are falling city-wide, DYRS youth have accounted for a smaller portion of overall arrests. In 2012, 6.6% of arrests in the District of young people age 20 and younger were DYRS youth, down from 9.0% in 2011.

## DROP IN INVOLVEMENT IN DEADLY VIOLENCE

In 2012 the District as a whole experienced a 19% decrease in homicides from the previous year, with fewer than 100 homicides for the first time since 1963. DYRS involvement in deadly violence dropped even more, falling from an average of 11 youth charged each year since 2007 to 1 in 2012. No DYRS youth were victims of homicide during the calendar year, after averaging 8 youth victims per year over the last five years.