

Washington State Institute for Public Policy

Benefit-Cost Results

The WSIPP benefit-cost analysis examines, on an apples-to-apples basis, the monetary value of programs or policies to determine whether the benefits from the program exceed its costs. WSIPP's research approach to identifying evidence-based programs and policies has three main steps. First, we determine "what works" (and what does not work) to improve outcomes using a statistical technique called meta-analysis. Second, we calculate whether the benefits of a program exceed its costs. Third, we estimate the risk of investing in a program by testing the sensitivity of our results. For more detail on our methods, see our [Technical Documentation](#).

Current estimates replace old estimates. Numbers will change over time as a result of model inputs and monetization methods.

Juvenile Justice

Program name	Date of last literature review	Total benefits	Taxpayer benefits	Non-taxpayer benefits	Costs	Benefits minus costs (net present value)	Benefit to cost ratio	Chance benefits will exceed costs
Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT) for youth in the juvenile justice system	Jun. 2017	\$59,017	\$12,239	\$46,779	(\$2,187)	\$56,830	\$26.99	93 %
Functional Family Therapy (FFT) for youth in state institutions	Jul. 2017	\$39,557	\$8,399	\$31,158	(\$3,530)	\$36,027	\$11.21	96 %
Education and Employment Training (EET, King County)	Dec. 2015	\$35,295	\$8,846	\$26,449	(\$877)	\$34,418	\$40.25	100 %
Functional Family Therapy (FFT) for youth on probation	Jul. 2017	\$27,844	\$7,022	\$20,822	(\$3,531)	\$24,313	\$7.89	96 %
Parenting with Love and Limits	Jun. 2017	\$23,951	\$6,169	\$17,782	(\$2,848)	\$21,103	\$8.41	93 %
Functional Family Parole	Jun. 2017	\$21,709	\$4,951	\$16,758	(\$3,530)	\$18,179	\$6.15	75 %
Cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT)	Dec. 2014	\$14,592	\$3,597	\$10,995	(\$402)	\$14,190	\$36.31	94 %
Boot camps	Apr. 2018	\$9,116	\$1,662	\$7,454	\$2,910	\$12,026	n/a	92 %
Other family-based therapies (non-name brand)	Sep. 2015	\$13,105	\$3,226	\$9,879	(\$1,844)	\$11,261	\$7.11	92 %
Wilderness experience programs	Sep. 2015	\$17,340	\$5,724	\$11,616	(\$6,570)	\$10,770	\$2.64	95 %
Adolescent Diversion Project	Jul. 2015	\$8,548	\$2,153	\$6,395	\$982	\$9,530	n/a	97 %
Multidimensional Treatment Foster Care	Jul. 2017	\$19,932	\$5,002	\$14,930	(\$10,978)	\$8,954	\$1.82	63 %
Coordination of Services	Sep. 2015	\$9,303	\$2,645	\$6,658	(\$427)	\$8,877	\$21.80	96 %
Mentoring	Jun. 2014	\$12,215	\$3,918	\$8,297	(\$3,356)	\$8,858	\$3.64	81 %
Diversion, no services (vs. traditional juvenile court processing)	Jul. 2015	\$6,861	\$1,714	\$5,148	\$1,099	\$7,961	n/a	98 %
Teaching-Family Model	Jun. 2015	\$29,600	\$8,040	\$21,560	(\$22,766)	\$6,834	\$1.30	58 %
Intensive supervision (parole)	Sep. 2015	\$8,911	\$2,116	\$6,795	(\$2,195)	\$6,716	\$4.06	76 %
Multisystemic Therapy (MST)	Aug. 2017	\$14,134	\$3,876	\$10,258	(\$7,973)	\$6,161	\$1.77	76 %
Multisystemic Therapy (MST) for juveniles convicted of sex offenses	Aug. 2017	\$14,459	\$3,823	\$10,636	(\$9,056)	\$5,404	\$1.60	63 %
Aggression Replacement Training (ART) for youth in state institutions	Jun. 2017	\$6,631	\$1,508	\$5,122	(\$1,631)	\$4,999	\$4.06	66 %
Multisystemic Therapy (MST) for juveniles with substance use disorder	Aug. 2017	\$11,851	\$3,657	\$8,193	(\$7,964)	\$3,887	\$1.49	52 %
Aggression Replacement Training (ART) for youth on probation	Jun. 2017	\$4,598	\$1,279	\$3,320	(\$1,632)	\$2,966	\$2.82	62 %
Diversion with services (vs. traditional juvenile court processing)	Jul. 2015	\$2,269	\$538	\$1,731	\$585	\$2,853	n/a	94 %
Victim offender mediation	Apr. 2012	\$3,459	\$1,078	\$2,381	(\$626)	\$2,833	\$5.52	76 %
Therapeutic communities for juveniles with substance use disorder	Aug. 2017	\$7,193	\$1,830	\$5,363	(\$4,794)	\$2,399	\$1.50	56 %
Vocational and employment training	Jun. 2017	\$1,453	(\$1,475)	\$2,929	(\$1,999)	(\$545)	\$0.73	49 %
Diversion with services (vs. simple release)	Jul. 2015	(\$222)	\$60	(\$283)	(\$880)	(\$1,102)	(\$0.25)	39 %
Other substance use disorder treatment for juveniles (non-therapeutic communities)	Aug. 2017	(\$90)	\$413	(\$502)	(\$2,389)	(\$2,479)	(\$0.04)	48 %
Family Integrated Transitions for youth in state institutions	Dec. 2014	\$5,936	\$2,440	\$3,495	(\$12,162)	(\$6,227)	\$0.49	40 %
Drug court	Jul. 2014	(\$5,616)	(\$664)	(\$4,952)	(\$3,325)	(\$8,941)	(\$1.69)	41 %
Intensive supervision (probation)	Sep. 2015	(\$5,640)	(\$826)	(\$4,813)	(\$4,488)	(\$10,128)	(\$1.26)	0 %

Program name	Date of last literature review	Total benefits	Taxpayer benefits	Non-taxpayer benefits	Costs	Benefits minus costs (net present value)	Benefit to cost ratio	Chance benefits will exceed costs
Scared Straight	May. 2015	(\$10,033)	(\$2,773)	(\$7,260)	(\$108)	(\$10,141)	(\$92.81)	2 %
Other treatment for juveniles convicted of sex offenses (non-MST)	Aug. 2017	(\$18,570)	(\$2,868)	(\$15,702)	(\$9,536)	(\$28,106)	(\$1.95)	15 %

Other Juvenile Justice topics reviewed:

Program name	Date of last literature review	Notes
Other group home programs (non-name brand)	Jun. 2015	Click for meta-analytic results
Team Child	Mar. 2017	Click for meta-analytic results
Connections Wraparound	Jan. 2013	No rigorous evaluation measuring outcome of interest.
Dialectical behavior therapy (DBT) for substance use disorder: Integrated treatment model	Jun. 2017	No rigorous evaluation measuring outcome of interest.
Electronic monitoring	Sep. 2015	No rigorous evaluation measuring outcome of interest.
Group homes (Boys Town)	Sep. 2015	No rigorous evaluation measuring outcome of interest.
Group homes (Sanctuary Model)	Jun. 2015	No rigorous evaluation measuring outcome of interest.
Group homes (Stop-Gap model)	Jun. 2015	No rigorous evaluation measuring outcome of interest.
Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative	Jan. 2014	No rigorous evaluation measuring outcome of interest.
Step Up	May. 2015	No rigorous evaluation measuring outcome of interest.
You Are Not Your Past	Jan. 2013	No rigorous evaluation measuring outcome of interest.
Youth Advocate Programs—Mentoring	Aug. 2018	No rigorous evaluation measuring outcome of interest.
Teen Courts	Oct. 2006	See previous WSIPP publication for past findings.

For further information, contact:
(360) 664-9800, institute@wsipp.wa.gov

Printed on 02-23-2019



Washington State Institute for Public Policy

The Washington State Legislature created the Washington State Institute for Public Policy in 1983. A Board of Directors—representing the legislature, the governor, and public universities—governs WSIPP and guides the development of all activities. WSIPP's mission is to carry out practical research, at legislative direction, on issues of importance to Washington State.