

Impaired Driver Rehabilitation Program (IDRP)

Program Completion, Age, and Re-offense

Background

The Impaired Driver Rehabilitation Program (IDRP) is an education program provided throughout Vermont for individuals who have received a conviction for operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol or other substances (DUI). The program is designed to help individuals understand how alcohol and other drugs impact behavior and driving skills. Until the IDRP program is completed, an individual's driver's license cannot be returned from the Department of Motor Vehicles. IDRP also uses Clinical Evaluators to assess whether individuals who have operated a motor vehicle while impaired need to be referred to a Licensed and Alcohol Drug Counselor (LADC) for treatment.

This data brief focuses on DUI re-offenses among individuals with a first offense between January 1, 2000 and October 20, 2016.¹

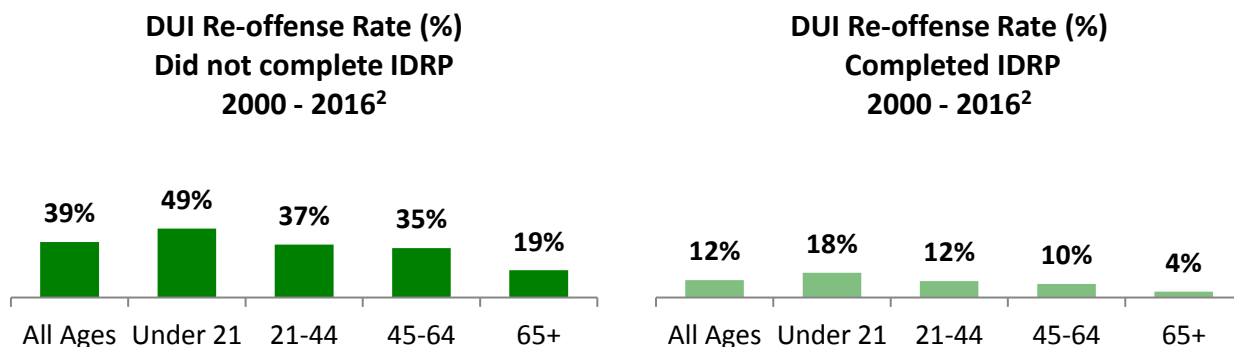
IDRP Completion and Re-offense

Of the 30,459 first-time offenders in the IDRP database, more than eight in ten (24,995) completed the program and less than two in ten (5,464) did not. Half of clients completed IDRP within seven months and three-quarters completed it within 15 months of the offense.

Overall, 17% of those with a first-time offense between 2000 and 2016² re-offended. Those who complete IDRP are significantly less likely to re-offend (12% vs. 39%). Of those who re-offended, half did so within two and a half years of completing IDRP, while three-quarters re-offended within about four and a half years.

Re-offense Rate by Age at First Offense

Generally, regardless of whether the individual completes the IDRP program, DUI re-offenses decline as clients get older. Among those who have completed IDRP, all differences by age are statistically significant. Among those who did not complete IDRP, most differences by age are statistically significant, except for offenders aged 21-44 vs. those aged 45-64. Within every age group, the proportion re-offending is significantly higher for those not completing IDRP versus those completing the program.

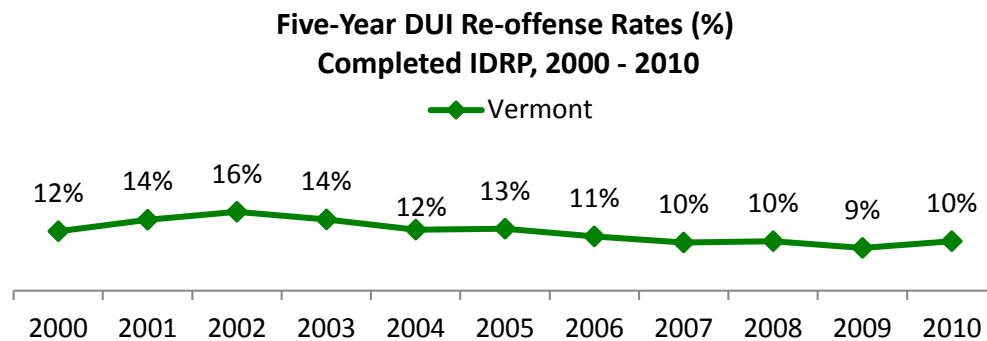


¹ Only re-offenses which are second offenses are considered. Additionally, those who do not initiate participation in IDRP are not captured in the following analyses. Examples of individuals not included are those who enroll in alcohol education programs in another state, or who decide to live without a valid Vermont driver's license. Therefore, the information presented here are likely an underrepresentation of DUI offenders and re-offenders in Vermont.

² Through October 20, 2016.

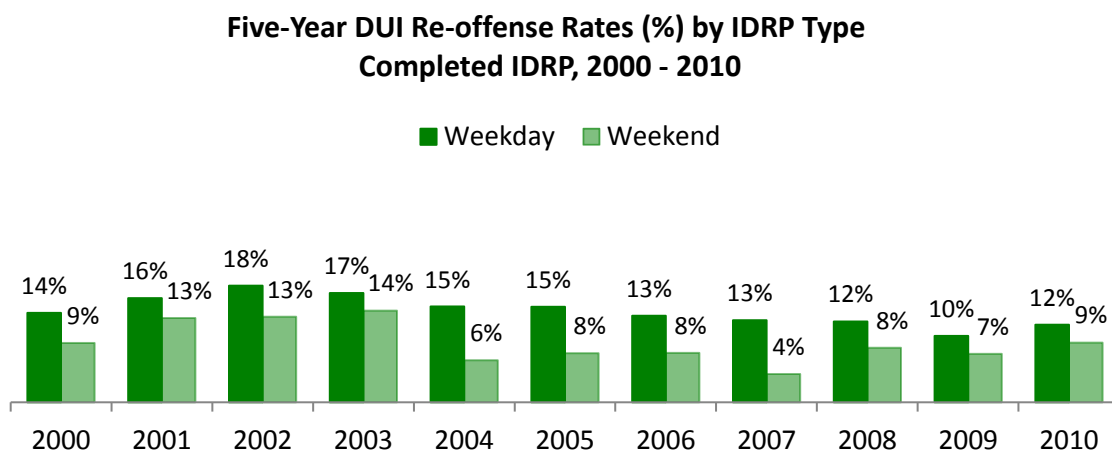
Re-offense Rate over Time for Clients Who Completed IDRP

Since most re-offenses occurred within five years of the first offense, calculating re-offense within a five-year window allows for comparisons to be made across years while still capturing most re-offenders. Of those who completed IDRP in 2010, one in ten received a second DUI within five years³. After peaking at 16% in 2002, the five-year DUI re-offense rate has generally declined over time.



Weekday vs. Weekend Program

Those who attend IDRP for a first or second offense may select either a weekday or weekend educational program. Over time, individuals participating in the weekend program had a lower five-year re-offense rate, although only differences from 2004 – 2007 were statistically significant, as compared with participants in the weekday program. The re-offense rate among weekday IDRP attendees has declined consistently since 2002, while changes associated with the weekend program have been more variable.



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³ These percentages are likely an underestimate of the actual re-offense rate since they do not take into consideration re-offenses occurring after more than five years.