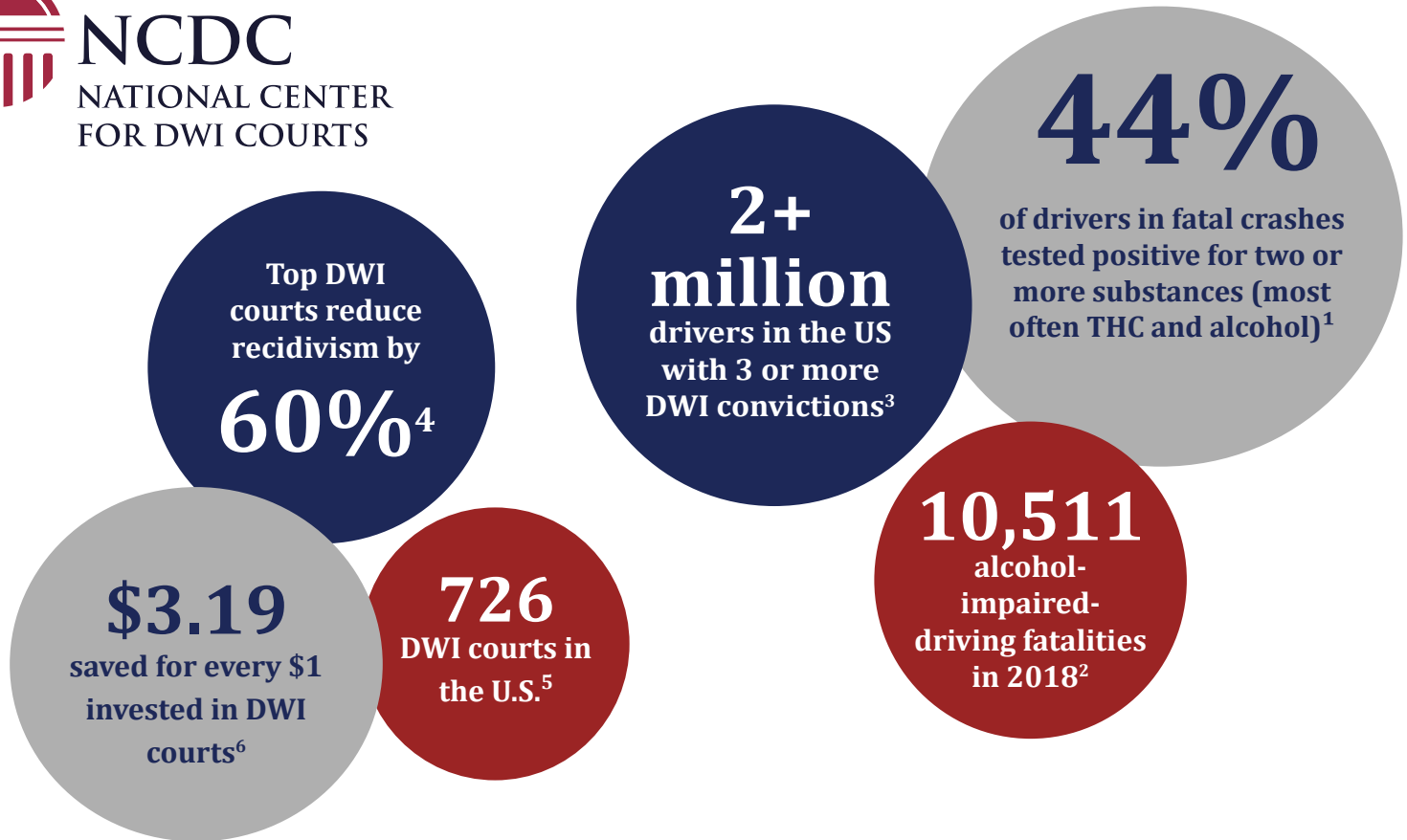




NCDC
NATIONAL CENTER
FOR DWI COURTS



IMPAIRED DRIVING EPIDEMIC

There is a disturbing upward trend in the number of annual impaired-driving-related fatalities due to repeat driving while intoxicated (DWI) offenders and drivers with a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of .15 or higher. However, the criminal justice system's traditional response of incarceration and other punishment does not deter these offenders because it does not address the root cause of the problem: **addiction**.

DWI court participants are **19 times less likely to reoffend**.⁷ DWI courts are **changing the criminal justice system's approach** to impaired driving:

- ✓ Provide intense supervision
- ✓ Provide individualized, long-term treatment
- ✓ Change participants' thinking and behavior
- ✓ Demand accountability
- ✓ Save taxpayers' money
- ✓ Improve public safety

¹ Governors Highway Safety Association (April 2017). *Drug-Impaired Driving: A Guide For States*
² National Center for Statistics and Analysis (October 2019). *2018 Fatal Motor Vehicle Crashes: Overview* (Traffic Safety Facts. DOT HS 812 826). Washington, D.C.: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.
³ Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) (2009). *New Data Shows Disturbing Number of Repeat Drunk Drivers on America's Roadways*.
⁴ Mitchell, O., Wilson, D.B., Eggers, A. & MacKenzie, D.L. (2012). *Assessing the effectiveness of drug courts on recidivism: A meta-analysis review of traditional and nontraditional drug courts*. Journal of Criminal Justice, 40(1).
⁵ National Association of Drug Court Professionals (2015).
⁶ Carey, S., Harrison, P., Johnson, A. & Zil, C. (2014). *Minnesota DWI Courts: A summary of evaluation findings in nine drug court programs*. Portland: NPC Research.
⁷ Carey, S., Fuller, B. & Kissick, K. (2008). *Michigan DUI Courts Outcome Evaluation: Final Report*. Portland: NPC Research.

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