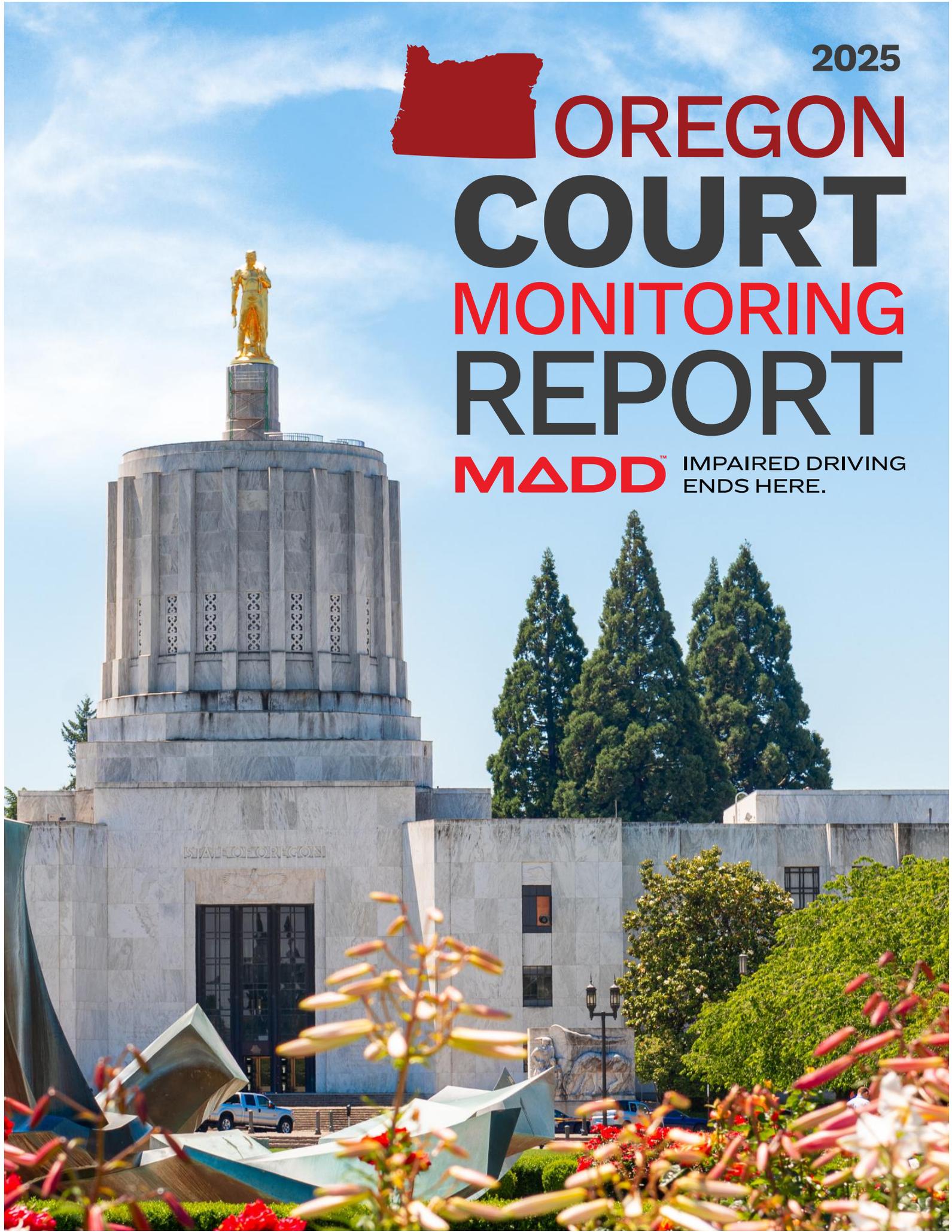


2025



# OREGON COURT MONITORING REPORT

**MADD™** IMPAIRED DRIVING  
ENDS HERE.



# HOW It Works



MADD's Court Monitoring Program enlists court monitors to observe and document what happens in the courtroom during impaired driving case proceedings. The purpose of court monitoring is to ensure transparency, accountability, and fairness in the judicial system

Court monitoring is a tool proven to affect the adjudication process and is

recognized by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) as an effective countermeasure to reduce impaired driving. Court monitors on the local scale can impact the handling of impaired driving cases by their mere presence in the court room.

Court monitoring is intended to enhance transparency and accountability within the criminal justice system and reduce the likelihood of repeat offenses. One way this goal is achieved is by sharing data and observations with law enforcement, judges, prosecutors, and the public to promote awareness of impaired driving and ensure accountability for all impaired driving offenders. To reduce future offenses, MADD® supports swift and unbiased treatment of all impaired driving cases.

## KEY FINDINGS AND OBSERVATIONS

This is MADD Oregon's first Court Monitoring report. We look forward to monitoring cases over the coming years to have comparable data over time. We are grateful to the law enforcement agencies of Deschutes County in Central Oregon and Multnomah and Washington Counties in the Portland area who have provided support and information for our Court Monitoring program.

# WHAT We Have Learned



## DESCHUTES COUNTY

Court Monitoring Specialist Peggy Glass  
[Peggy.glass@madd.org](mailto:Peggy.glass@madd.org)

### Cases Monitored

During the fiscal year from October 1, 2024 through September 30, 2025, the Deschutes County Court Monitor observed 665 misdemeanor Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants (DUII) cases. At the time this report was drafted, 242 cases remained open and 435 cases were closed.

## **Judicial Practices**

Deschutes County judges take a no-nonsense approach when handling impaired driving cases and adhere strictly to sentencing guidelines pursuant to ORS 813.010. DUII cases are adjudicated without plea bargaining to lesser charges such as careless or reckless driving. All DUII defendants are required to attend a MADD Victim Impact Panel (VIP). Defendants eligible for the diversion program are required to install an Ignition Interlock Device (IID) until completion of the program, with limited exceptions in drug-only cases where IIDs are not designed to detect impairment.

## **Recidivism and Licensing**

17% of DUII defendants had two prior DUII arrests, and 10% had three or more. Defendants do not lose their driving privileges while actively participating in diversion when IID installation is ordered. If convicted of DUII, a driver's license is suspended for one year. A second DUII conviction within five years results in a three-year suspension, and a third DUII conviction or felony DUII results in a lifetime suspension.

## **Diversion Outcomes**

58% of diversion-eligible defendants successfully completed the program and were able to move the court for an order dismissing the charge. 42% failed to complete diversion for reasons including failure to appear for the initial evaluation, failure to complete the required VIP, failure to install the IID, driving while suspended, or re-arrest for impaired driving.

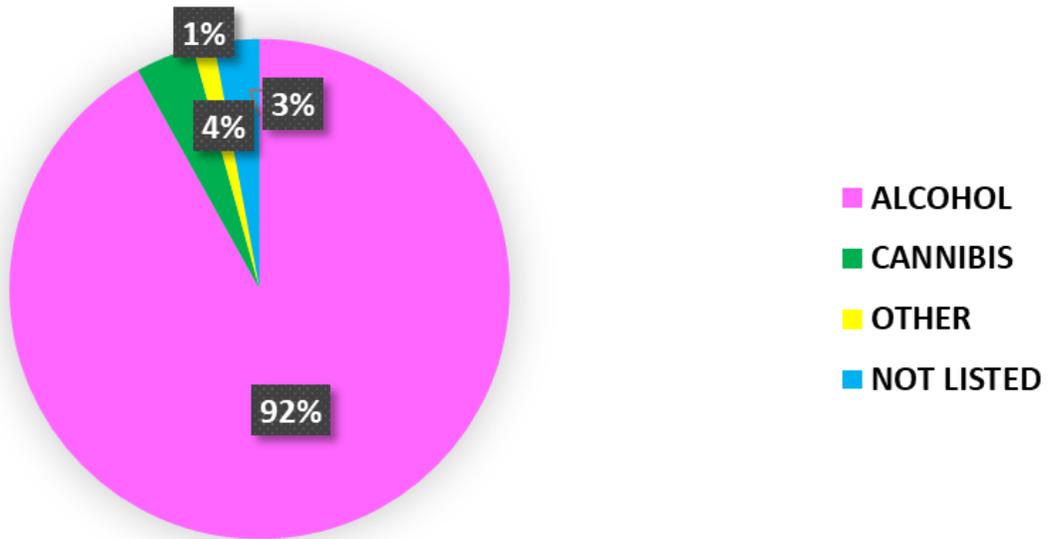
## **Legal Representation**

67% of DUII defendants required court-appointed counsel. Deschutes County continues to experience a shortage of public defenders. However, newly graduated law students who have not yet passed the bar are adequately handling diversion cases. Despite this shortage, most diversion cases are efficiently adjudicated, with defendants entering diversion within two to three months of arraignment.

## **Impairment Type and BAC**

87% of defendants were determined to be under the influence of alcohol at the time of arrest. 5 % were under the influence of cannabis or other drugs, and 8% did not have an intoxicant specified in the District Attorney's Information. District Attorney filings list BAC thresholds as 0.08 or more, or 0.15 or more. Court observations indicate that defendants listed at 0.15 or more frequently had BACs exceeding 0.20, with some as high as 0.30. Data collected during the fiscal year shows that 52% of DUII defendants had a listed BAC of 0.15 or higher, 36% were listed as 0.08 or higher, and 12% were unlisted.

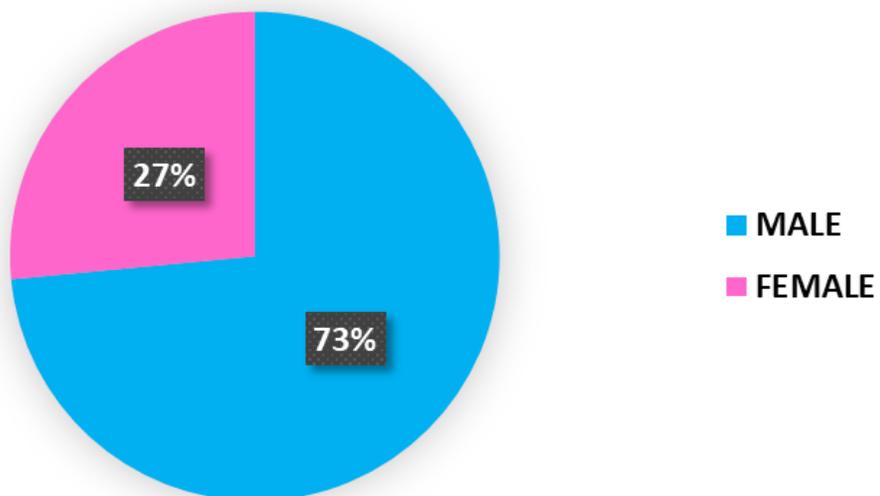
## INTOXICANT TYPE



### Demographics and Case Factors

The impaired driving offender population in Deschutes County averages approximately 73% male and 27% female. Data from the final quarter of the fiscal year showed a notable increase among female offenders, with 62% recording BACs of 0.15 or higher. Children were passengers in 16 DUII arrests. 9% of cases were crash-related, including 25 incidents involving property damage and eight involving personal injury.

## GENDER



# MULTNOMAH AND WASHINGTON COUNTY

Court Monitoring Specialist Alexa Rember

[Alexa.Rember@madd.org](mailto:Alexa.Rember@madd.org)

## Cases Monitored

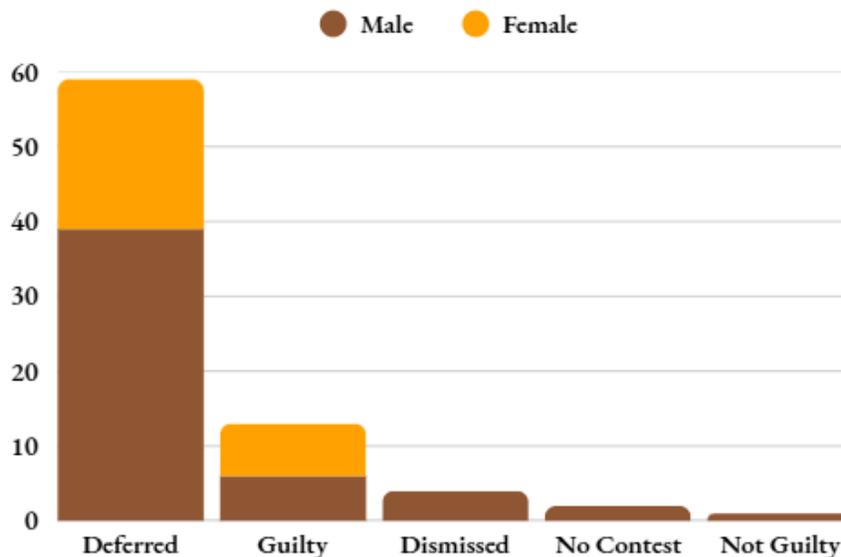
During the reporting year, MADD monitored a combined total of 130 misdemeanor DUII cases across Multnomah and Washington Counties. Multnomah County accounted for 93 cases, while Washington County contributed 37 cases after being added to the program in the fourth quarter. At the close of the fiscal year, 41 cases remained open and were carried forward into the next reporting period.

## Court Observation Hours

Court monitors and volunteers were present in the courtroom for approximately 70 hours observing misdemeanor DUII hearings and trials across both counties.

## Disposition Trends

Judicial rotation is common in both Multnomah and Washington Counties, resulting in defendants appearing before multiple judges before cases are fully adjudicated. Courts consistently follow minimum sentencing guidelines under ORS 813.010, though fines are frequently reduced or waived. Very few misdemeanor DUII cases proceed to trial, with the majority resolved through guilty pleas or entry into the diversion program. Of the 89 cases followed through disposition, outcomes included 13 guilty pleas, 2 no contest pleas, 4 dismissals, 1 acquittal, and 69 deferred prosecutions.



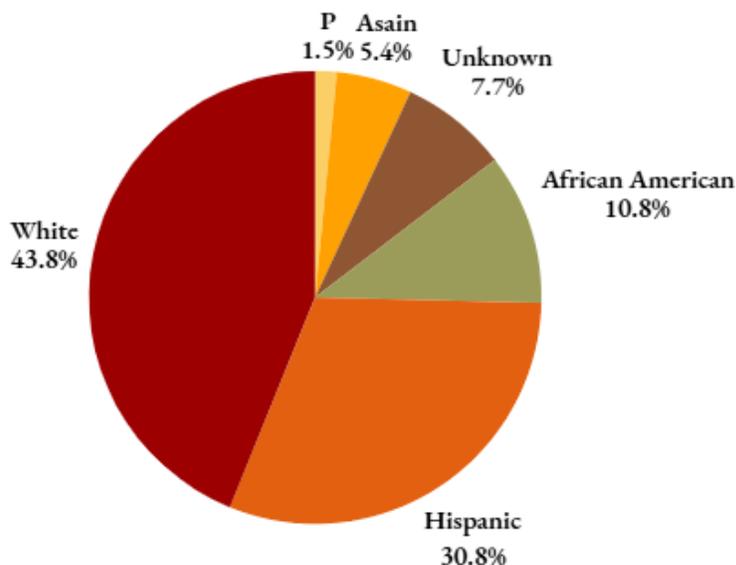
## Blood Alcohol Content and Data Limitations

The Multnomah County District Attorney's Office typically lists BAC as 0.08 or more, while the Washington County District Attorney's Office identifies impairment by intoxicant without specifying BAC. Exact BAC levels, substances involved, or testing methods are often obtained only if stated by the prosecutor or requested by the judge in court, limiting the availability of precise data. Among the 85 cases where toxicology information was

available, 2 involved BACs of 0.07 or lower, 66 were recorded as 0.08 or higher, and 17 were recorded as 0.15 or higher.

### Demographics

White males aged 30–39 represented the highest proportion of DUII offenders in monitored cases. Of the defendants observed, 95 were male and 35 were female. Racial and ethnic demographics included 57 White, 40 Hispanic, 14 African American, 7 Asian, 2 Pacific Islander, and 10 unknown.



### Ignition Interlock Devices

Ignition Interlock Devices remain a standard sentencing tool in alcohol-related DUII cases. Across both counties, 74.2% of cases required IID installation. Cases without IID requirements typically involved non-alcohol-related offenses or alternative license restrictions.

# What This MEANS

## Program Growth and Engagement

During this reporting year, MADD Oregon focused on establishing a strong operational foundation for the Court Monitoring Program. Initial efforts centered on Deschutes and Multnomah Counties, with Washington County successfully added during the fourth

quarter. Standardized processes for data collection, volunteer coordination, and court reporting were developed and will continue to be refined as the program matures.

### Partnerships and Stakeholder Engagement

Throughout the year, MADD Oregon developed collaborative partnerships with AAA, Target

Zero, and the Slavic Community Center of Northwest Oregon. Connections were also established with Oregon public defense attorneys, circuit court judges, judicial officers, and local law enforcement agencies. Across all counties, stakeholders have been welcoming and supportive of MADD's Court Monitoring presence.

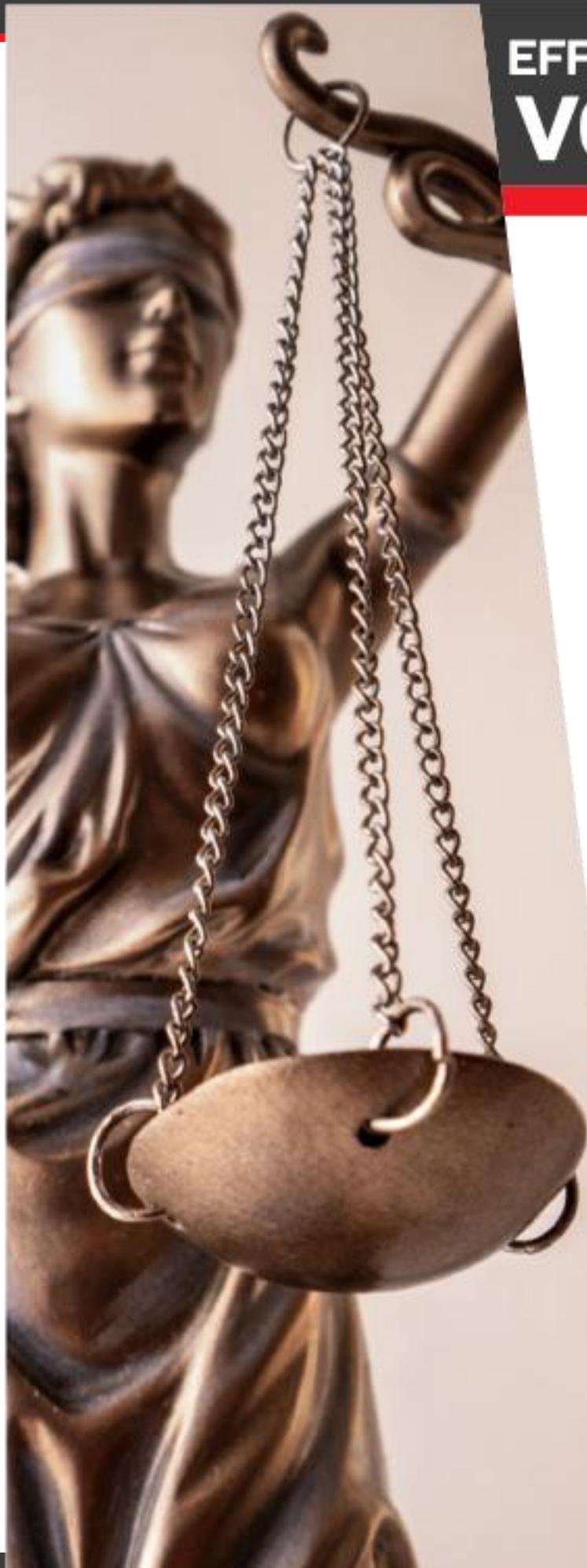
### **Challenges and Limitations**

Challenges encountered across all counties included public defender shortages, limited availability of detailed BAC and toxicology data in court records, and judicial rotation that can lead to variability in case handling. Despite these challenges, MADD Oregon's Court Monitoring Program has established a strong foundation and is well positioned for continued growth, improved data consistency, and expanded impact in future years.

### **Conclusion**

MADD Oregon's Court Monitoring Program demonstrates the value of consistent courtroom observation in promoting accountability, transparency, and equitable treatment of impaired driving cases. By maintaining county-specific analysis while strengthening statewide infrastructure, MADD Oregon is positioned to enhance data quality, inform policy discussions, and advance its mission to end impaired driving and save lives.

Thank you to ODOT- Vanessa Churchill and Ryan Stone for their support of the court monitoring program. Thank you to Candace Reid for her dedication, leadership, and unfailing support that guides the program's success.



# EFFECTIVE JUSTICE THROUGH VOLUNTEERING

Join MADD's **Court Monitoring Program**

**MADD**<sup>™</sup>  
IMPAIRED  
DRIVING  
ENDS HERE.

COURT  
MONITORING