

## **Overview of the PMT Data for Juvenile Mentoring Grantees: January–December 2017**

The Juvenile Mentoring Grants program, administered by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) includes several solicitations that support national and community organizations, which either directly serve youth through mentoring or enable other groups to train and recruit mentors. Youth mentoring is defined by OJJDP as a consistent, prosocial relationship between an adult or older peer and one or more youth, and the goal of the Juvenile Mentoring Grants program is to establish relationships with at-risk youth to bring about changes in attitudes or behaviors that prevent delinquency, failure in school, or other negative outcomes. Studies reveal that mentoring can improve self-esteem, academic achievement, and peer relationships and reduce drug use, aggression, depressive symptoms, and delinquent acts.<sup>1</sup>

### **Report Highlights**

All grantees receiving Juvenile Mentoring grant funding are required to report data on their program activities and any subgrant activities into the Performance Measurement Tool (PMT). This report presents an overview of the data for Juvenile Mentoring grantees and subgrantees as reported in the PMT during two reporting periods: January–June 2017 and July–December 2017 and is divided into two sections:

1. An examination of program information for Juvenile Mentoring grantees and subgrantees.
2. An analysis of Juvenile Mentoring performance measures.

Key findings from the analysis for the January–June 2017 reporting period include:

- A total of 119,814 youth were served by 539 grantees and subgrantees during the reporting period, 94 percent of whom were served using an evidence-based program or practice.
- There were 41,798 mentors active during the reporting period, including 22,221 new mentors recruited during the period.
- Of the youth enrolled in mentoring programs, 87 percent were matched with a mentor.
- Less than 1 percent of youth tracked had an arrest or delinquent offence in the short-term.<sup>2</sup>
- Overall, 59 percent of program youth had a desired change in a targeted behavior in the short-term.

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<sup>1</sup> Crimesolutions.gov. (2018). Mentoring. [online] Available at: <https://www.crimesolutions.gov/PracticeDetails.aspx?ID=15> [Accessed 25 Jul. 2018].

<sup>2</sup> Short-term outcomes refer to benefits or changes that youth experience while enrolled in the program or zero to six months after completing the program's requirements. Long-term outcomes refer to benefits or changes that youth experience 6 to 12 months after that participant completes program requirements.

Key findings from the analysis for the July–December 2017 reporting period include:

- A total of 116,450 youth were served by 616 grantees and subgrantees during the reporting period, 93 percent of whom were served using an evidence-based program or practice.
- There were 45,031 mentors active during the reporting period, including 17,703 new mentors recruited during the reporting period.
- Of the youth enrolled in mentoring programs, 91 percent were matched with a mentor.
- Less than 1 percent of youth tracked had an arrest or delinquent offense in the short-term.
- Overall, 58 percent of program youth had a desired change in a targeted behavior in the short-term.

## 1. Examination of Program Information

### 1.1 Reporting Compliance

Grantees are required to report semi-annually for each active federal award. As table 1 illustrates, 73 grantees completed reporting requirements for the January–June 2017 reporting period, resulting in a compliance rate of 76 percent; 90 grantees completed reporting requirements for the July–December 2017 reporting period, resulting in a compliance rate of 77 percent.

**Table 1: Status of Grantee Reporting (January–December 2017)<sup>3</sup>**

Data Reporting Period	Status			
	Not Started	In Progress	Complete	Total
January–June 2017	20	0	73	93
July–December 2017	23	0	90	113

Of the grantees who completed reporting requirements, only 55 were operational during the January–June reporting period and 66 were operational during the July–December reporting period. Grantees that were not operational did not expend grant funds or provide services during the reporting period and were thus excluded from the analysis of performance measures.

While some grantees spent their funds directly, others subawarded their funds to other organizations. As a result, data were reported for 526 subgrant awards during the January–June reporting period and 603 subgrant awards during the July–December reporting period. The numbers reported in table 1 do not include subrecipients, but subrecipients are included in the rest of the tables and figures.

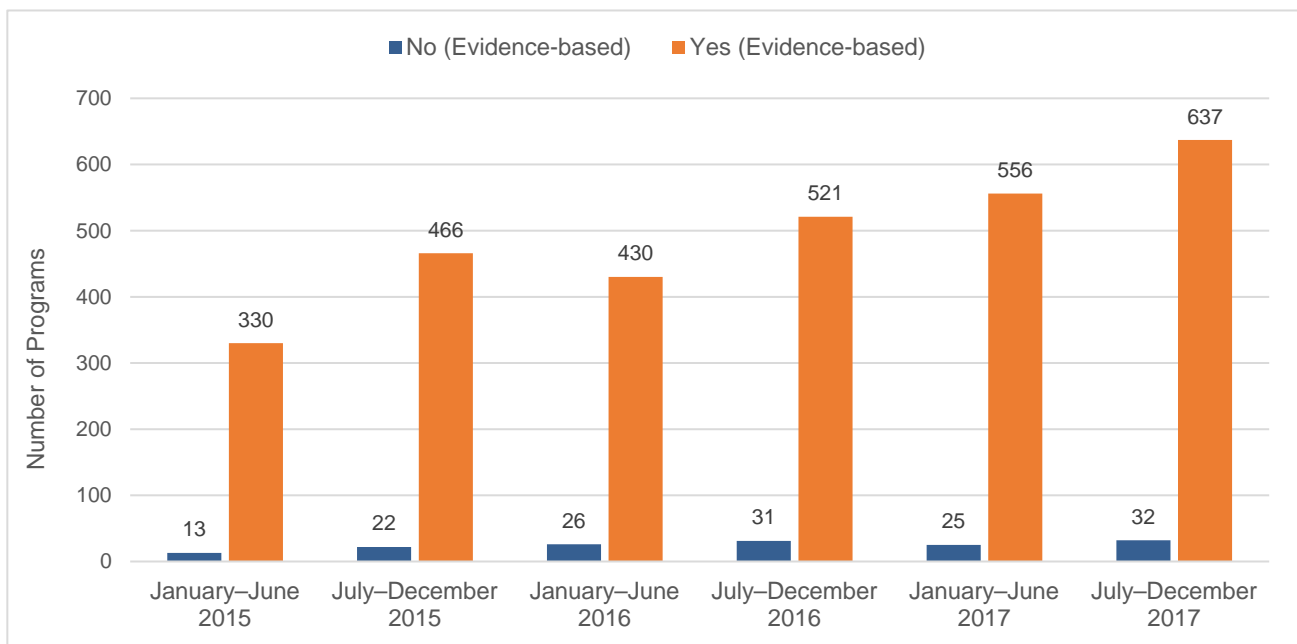
<sup>3</sup> *N* = 93 for January–June 2017; *N* = 113 for July–December 2017.

## 1.2 Evidence-based Programming

OJJDP strongly encourages the use of research and evidence-based practices to implement mentoring programs. Evidence-based programs and practices include program models that have been shown, through rigorous evaluation and replication, to be effective at preventing or reducing juvenile delinquency or related risk factors. To understand how Juvenile Mentoring grantees are prioritizing evidence-based programs, grantees and subgrantees are asked to report whether or not their programs are evidence based.

As shown in figure 1, a significant number of grantees and subgrantees are implementing evidence-based practices. During the January–June reporting period, 96 percent of grantees and subgrantees implemented evidence-based programs and 95 percent implemented evidence-based programs during the July–December 2017 reporting period.

Figure 1: Programs Implementing Evidence-Based Practices (January 2015–December 2017)<sup>4</sup>



A review of allocated funds for evidence-based programs during the January–June and July–December 2017 reporting periods revealed about 90 percent of federal funds were distributed by Juvenile Mentoring grantees and subgrantees to evidence-based programs during both reporting periods (figure 2, figure 3).<sup>5</sup>

<sup>4</sup>  $N = 581$  for January–June 2017;  $N = 669$  for July–December 2017. In previous reporting periods,  $N$  ranged from 343 to 552.

<sup>5</sup> Funding amounts represent the total funding for the life of the awards and does not represent actual grantee spending during the reporting period.

Figure 2: Grant Funds for Evidence-Based Programs and Practices (January–June 2017)<sup>6</sup>

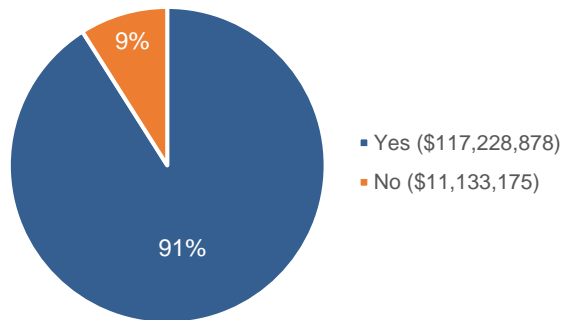
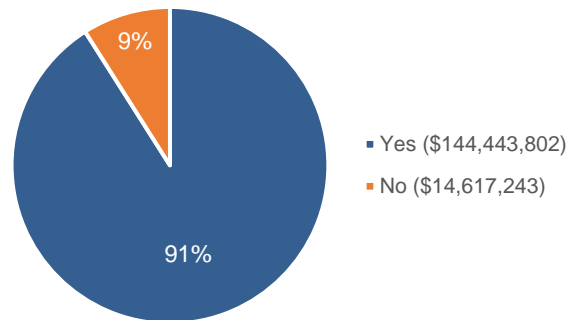


Figure 3: Grant Funds for Evidence-Based Programs and Practices (July–December 2017)<sup>7</sup>



### 1.3 Organization Type

Nonprofit community-based organizations represented 87 percent of grantees and subgrantees in January–June 2017 and 89 percent of grantees and subgrantees in July–December 2017 (table 2).

Table 2: Number of Programs by Organization Type (January–December 2017)<sup>8</sup>

Organization Type	January–June 2017		July–December 2017	
	N	Percentage	N	Percentage
Nonprofit Community-based Organization	507	87%	596	89%
Other Community-based Organization	58	10%	58	9%
School/Other Education	10	2%	9	1%
Other <sup>9</sup>	6	1%	6	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>581</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>669</b>	<b>N/A</b>

## 2. Analysis of Performance Measures

Grantees report on a number of performance measures, which collect data on grantees’ activities and program outcomes. These performance measures help OJJDP determine whether the Juvenile Mentoring grant program has achieved its goals and objectives and may be used to improve program design and policy decisions at the federal level.

<sup>6</sup> N = 581

<sup>7</sup> N = 669

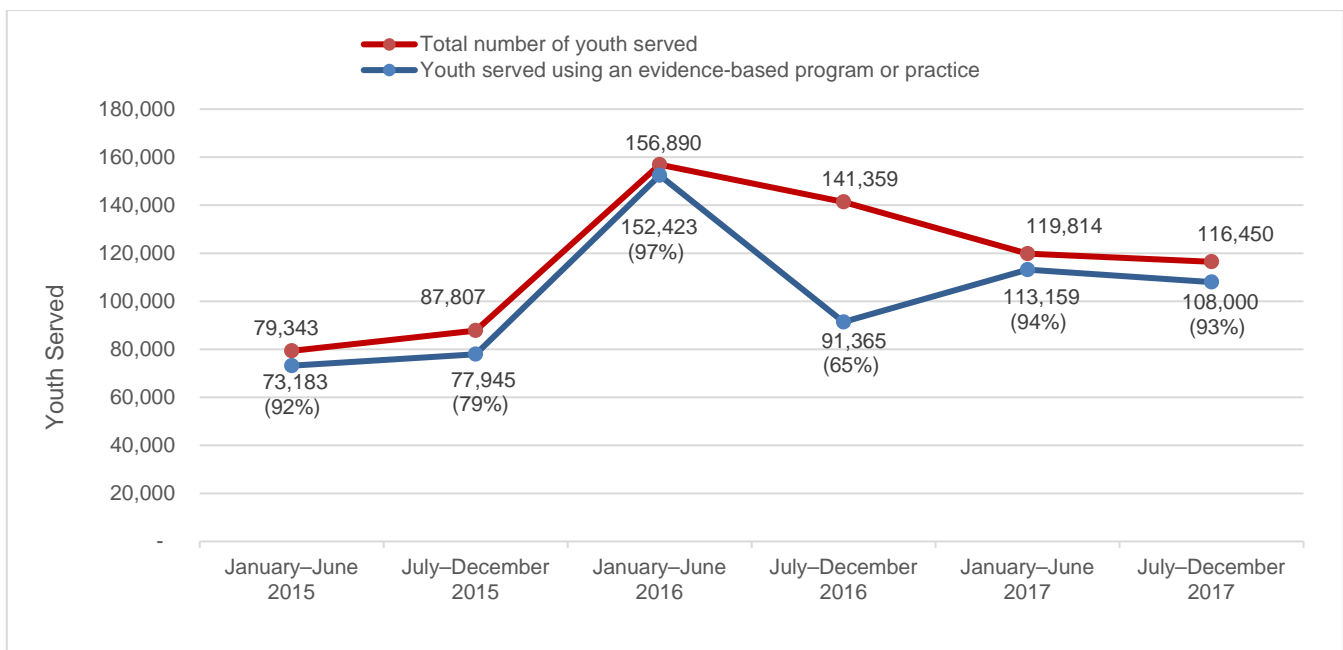
<sup>8</sup> N = 581 for January–June 2017; N = 669 for July–December 2017.

<sup>9</sup> Includes local government agencies, tribal government, juvenile justice organizations, and other government agencies.

## 2.1 Youth Served

During the January–June 2017 reporting period, a total of 119,814 youth were served by Juvenile Mentoring grantees and subgrantees. The percentage of youth served using an evidence-based program or practice during this reporting period increased nearly 30 percent from the previous reporting period, from 65 percent during July–December 2016 to 94 percent during January–June 2017 (Figure 4). During the July–December 2017 reporting period, a total of 116,450 youth were served, and 93 percent of program youth were served using an evidence-based program or practice.

Figure 4: Youth Served Using an Evidence-Based Program or Practice (January 2015–December 2017)<sup>10</sup>

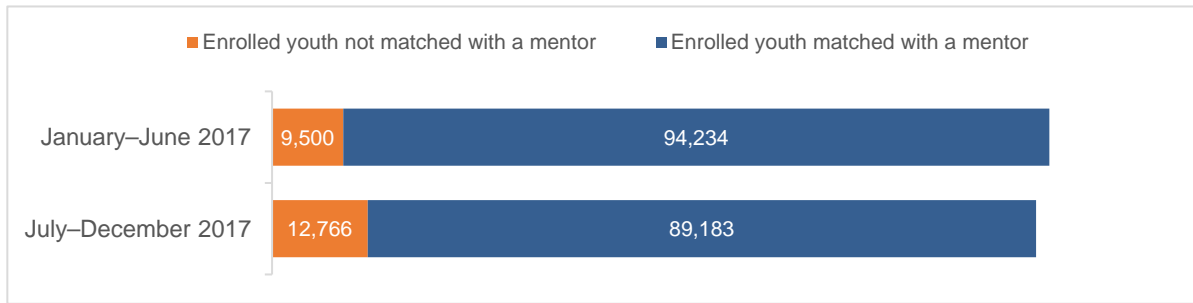


## 2.2 Youth Matched with a Mentor

The number of youth matched with a mentor is an important indicator of program capacity, as it measures a programs ability to provide mentoring services to all youth who are enrolled in the program. As shown in figure 5, during the January–June 2017 reporting period, 87 percent of enrolled youth were matched with a mentor while 13 percent of enrolled youth were awaiting a mentor match. During the July–December 2017 reporting period, the percentage of enrolled youth matched with a mentor increased to 91 percent while 9 percent of program youth were awaiting a mentor match.

<sup>10</sup> 539 grantees and subgrantees reported on this measure during the January–June 2017 reporting period; 616 grantees and subgrantees reported on this measure during the July–December 2017 reporting period. Earlier reporting periods ranged between 233 and 469 grantees and subgrantees reporting on the measure.

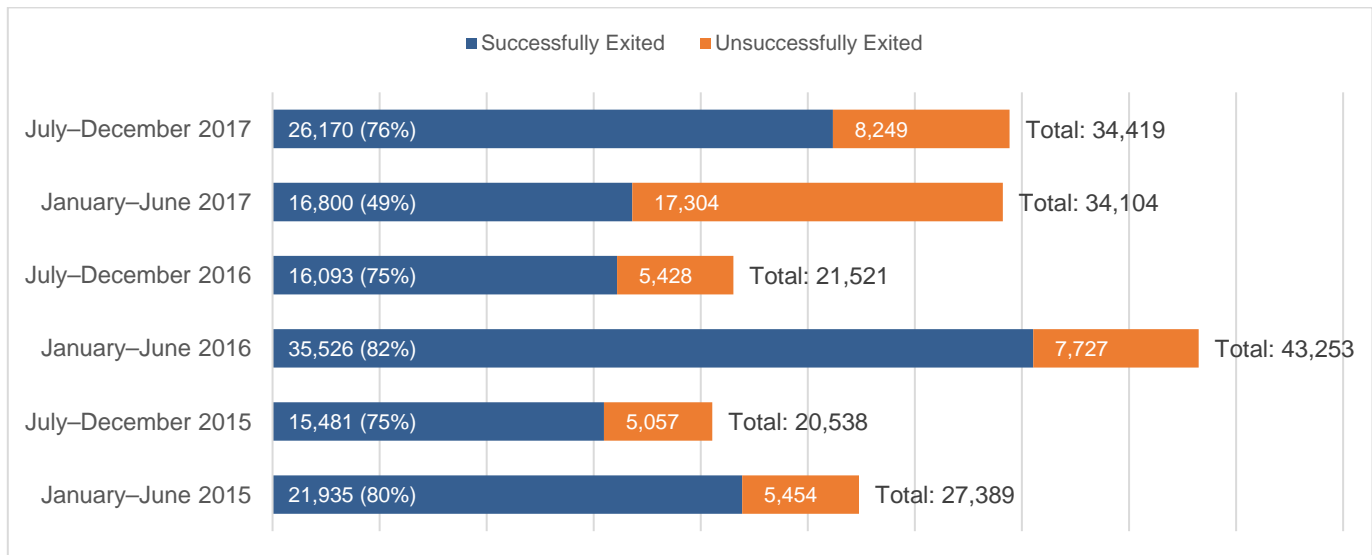
Figure 5: Number of Youth Matched with a Mentor (January–December 2017)<sup>11</sup>



### 2.3 Youth Exiting the Program

As shown in figure 6, the percentage of youth who successfully exited the program decreased by more than 25 percent during the January–June 2017 reporting period but then increased from 49 percent to 76 percent during the July–December 2017 reporting period. Youth who “successfully exited” are considered to be those who have fulfilled all program obligations and requirements. Each grantee defines the requirements needed for a youth to complete its program. Youth who fail to follow through with the program, such as those who are expelled or leave voluntarily, are considered to have “unsuccessfully exited” the program.

Figure 6: Number of Program Youth Who Exited the Program (January 2015–December 2017)<sup>12</sup>



<sup>11</sup> 387 grantees and subgrantees reported on this measure during the January–June 2017 reporting period; 382 grantees and subgrantees reported on this measure during the July–December 2017 reporting period.

<sup>12</sup> 368 grantees and subgrantees reported on this measure during the January–June 2017 reporting period; 412 grantees and subgrantees reported on this measure during the July–December 2017 reporting period. Earlier reporting periods ranged between 147 and 321 grantees and subgrantees reporting on the measure.

## **2.4 Program Youth Offenses**

Program success is also demonstrated through outcomes that are designed to reveal the impact of programs on preventing or reducing juvenile offending. This is measured in the short-term by the number of youth currently being served by a Juvenile Mentoring program or those who exited up to 6 months earlier, who were arrested or seen at juvenile court for a delinquent offense during the reporting period. As shown in table 3, during the January–June 2017 reporting period 72,567 program youth were monitored for offenses. Of those, 502 youth, less than 1 percent, had an arrest or delinquent offense. In addition, 376 youth were committed to a juvenile residential facility, 11 were sentenced to adult prison, and 24 received some other sentence. During the July–December 2017 reporting period, 74,571 youth were tracked for offenses. Of those, 446 youth, less than 1 percent, had an arrest or delinquent offense. In addition, 304 program youth were committed to a juvenile residential facility, 7 were sentenced to adult prison, and 26 received some other sentence.

**Table 3: Program Youth Offending, Short-Term (January–December 2017)<sup>13</sup>**

Performance Measure	January–June 2017		July–December 2017	
	N	Percentage	N	Percentage
Program youth tracked for delinquent offenses	72,567	N/A	74,571	N/A
Youth with an arrest or delinquent offense	502	<1%	446	<1%
Youth committed to a juvenile facility	376	<1%	304	<1%
Youth sentenced to adult prison	11	<1%	7	<1%
Youth who received some other sentence	24	<1%	26	<1%

Grantees also reported long-term offending outcomes for youth who were tracked for 6–12 months after exiting a mentoring program. During the January–June 2017 reporting period, 5 percent of tracked youth were arrested or appeared in juvenile court within 6–12 months of exiting a mentoring program (table 4). Only 2 percent of youth were committed to a juvenile facility, and less than 1 percent were sentenced to adult prison. During the July–December 2017 reporting period, although still low, the percentage of tracked youth arrested or appearing in juvenile court within 6–12 months of exiting a mentoring program more than doubled (13 percent) from the last reporting period; however, less than 1 percent of youth were committed to a juvenile facility or sentenced to an adult prison 6–12 months after existing the program.

<sup>13</sup> 483 grantees and subgrantees reported on this measure during the January–June 2017 reporting period; 513 grantees and subgrantees reported on this measure during the July–December 2017 reporting period.

**Table 4: Program Youth Offending, Long-Term (January–December 2017)<sup>14</sup>**

Performance Measure	January–June 2017		July–December 2017	
	N	Percentage	N	Percentage
Youth tracked for delinquent offenses 6–12 months after exiting the program	525	N/A	709	N/A
Youth with an arrest or delinquent offense 6–12 months after exiting the program	26	5%	92	13%
Youth committed to a juvenile facility 6–12 months after exiting the program	8	2%	2	<1%
Youth sentenced to adult prison 6–12 months after exiting the program	1	<1%	2	<1%
Youth who received some other sentence 6–12 months after exiting the program	3	<1%	4	<1%

### **2.5 Program Youth Recidivism**

Grantees report on short-term recidivism measures that track reoffending outcomes for youth served by the program and for up to 6 months after exiting the program. As shown in table 5, recidivism levels of program youth were extremely low for both reporting periods, suggesting programs were successful in preventing or reducing reoffending in program youth. Of the 25,632 program youth who were tracked during the January–June 2017 reporting period, only 44 (less than 1 percent) were arrested or seen at a juvenile court for a new delinquent offense. Of the 17,296 program youth who were tracked during the July–December 2017 reporting period, only 12 (less than 1 percent) were arrested or seen at a juvenile court for a new delinquent offense.

**Table 5: Program Youth Reoffending, Short-Term (January–December 2017)<sup>15</sup>**

Performance Measure	January–June 2017		July–December 2017	
	N	Percentage	N	Percentage
Youth tracked for new delinquent offenses	25,632	N/A	17,296	N/A
Youth with a new arrest or delinquent offense	44	<1%	12	<1%
Youth committed to a juvenile facility	19	<1%	1	<1%
Youth sentenced to adult prison	4	<1%	2	<1%
Youth who received some other sentence	0	<1%	3	<1%

<sup>14</sup> 36 grantees and subgrantees reported on this measure during the January–June 2017 reporting period; 54 grantees and subgrantees reported on this measure during the July–December 2017 reporting period.

<sup>15</sup> 282 grantees and subgrantees reported on this measure during the January–June 2017 reporting period; 328 grantees and subgrantees reported on this measure during the July–December 2017 reporting period.



OJJDP also asks grantees to report on performance measures over the long-term (6–12 months following departure from the program). Due to the nature of the programs enacted by the grantees, it is difficult to maintain contact with all youth served over long periods of time, and many grantees are unable to report on long-term measures. Therefore, long-term performance data on recidivism are not included in this report.

## **2.6 Youth Target Behaviors**

Tables 6 and 7 present short-term data on program youth whose selected target behaviors improved while enrolled in the mentoring program and up to 6 months after exiting the program. A target behavior is one that a grantee has chosen to track for youth served by a particular program; it measures a “positive” change in a behavior such as social competence, improved family relationships, or community involvement.

Overall, 59 percent of youth receiving services exhibited a desired change in a targeted behavior during the January–June 2017 reporting period (table 6). Occupational skill training had the greatest improvement during the reporting period, with 87 percent of youth improving occupational skills. Additionally, 76 percent of youth receiving services demonstrated a positive behavior change related to substance use.

**Table 6: Short-Term Target Behavior Performance (January–June 2017)<sup>16</sup>**

Target Behavior	Youth Served	Youth with Intended Behavior Change	Percentage of Youth with Intended Behavior Change
Occupational skill training	3,199	2,775	87%
Substance use	1,633	1,242	76%
Community involvement	12,354	9,146	74%
Gang resistance/involvement	1,537	1,127	73%
Prosocial behavior	12,121	8,566	71%
Perception of social support	33,746	23,645	70%
Antisocial behavior	11,024	7,231	66%
Family relationships	7,257	4,043	56%
School attendance	12,439	6,611	53%
Social competence	40,043	20,346	51%
GPA	23,722	10,575	45%
GED	1,792	303	17%
<b>Overall</b>	<b>160,867</b>	<b>95,610</b>	<b>59%</b>

<sup>16</sup> Number of grantees and subgrantees reporting on this measure during the January–June 2017 reporting period varies from 244 reporting on social competence to 13 reporting on prosocial behaviors.

During the July–December 2017 reporting period, 58 percent of youth receiving services exhibited a desired change in a targeted behavior overall (table 7). Youth receiving services to address behaviors associated with gang resistance/involvement had the greatest improvement during the reporting period, with 75 percent of youth demonstrating a positive change, closely followed by youth demonstrating positive changes in occupational skill training and community involvement (74 percent).

**Table 7. Short-term Target Behavior Performance: July–December 2017<sup>17</sup>**

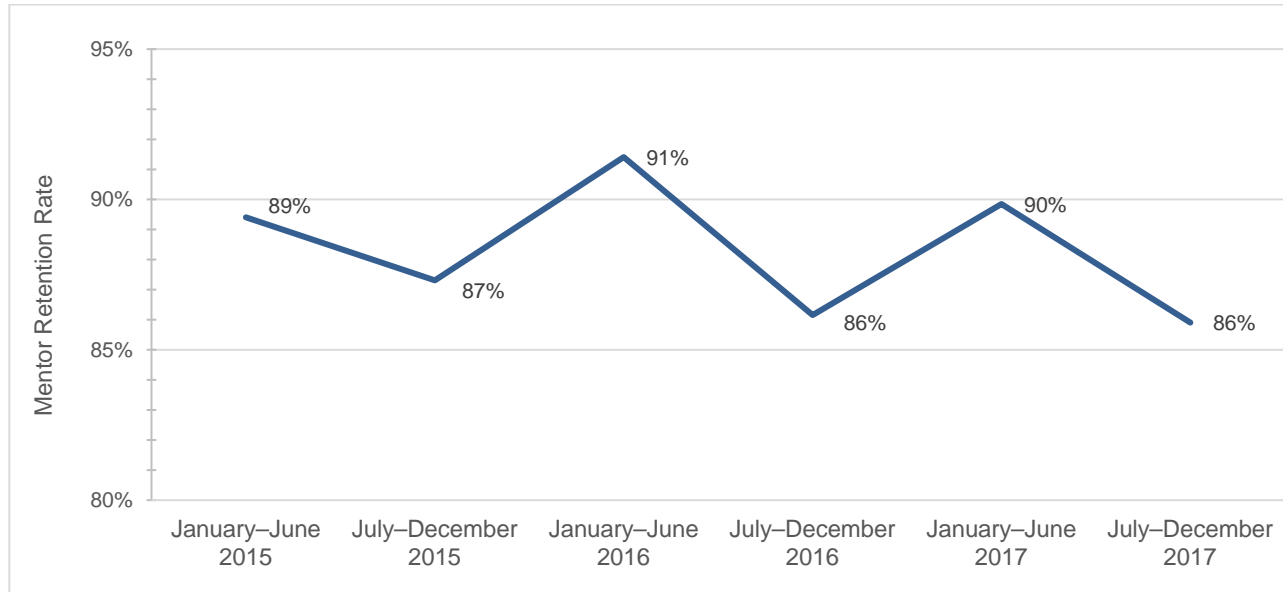
Target Behavior	Youth Served	Youth with Intended Behavior Change	Percentage of Youth with Intended Behavior Change
Gang resistance/involvement	3,554	2,671	75%
Occupational skill training	3,974	2,950	74%
Community involvement	14,346	10,547	74%
Perception of social support	28,637	20,649	72%
Antisocial behavior	14,078	10,146	72%
Prosocial behavior	10,399	7,292	70%
Family relationships	9,100	5,732	63%
Substance use	2,863	1,763	62%
School attendance	14,632	7,595	52%
Social competence	42,707	19,704	46%
GPA	23,828	9,632	40%
GED	2,016	371	18%
<b>Overall</b>	<b>170,134</b>	<b>99,052</b>	<b>58%</b>

## **2.7 Program Mentors**

The total number of program mentors enrolled in Juvenile Mentoring programs in 2017 continued to increase from 36,321 during the July–December 2016 reporting period to 41,798 mentors during the January–June 2017 reporting period and 45,031 mentors during the July–December 2017 reporting period (figure 7). The overall mentor retention rate remained steadily high during 2017 with 90 percent of mentors staying active or retained during January–June 2017 and 86 percent during July–December 2017. The mentor retention rate measures the percent of mentors that remain active with the program.

<sup>17</sup> Number of grantees and subgrantees reporting on this measure during the July–December 2017 reporting period varies from 206 reporting on social competence to 15 reporting on prosocial behaviors.

Figure 7: Mentor Retention (January 2015–December 2017)<sup>18</sup>



Training is provided to individuals to help prepare them for various mentoring opportunities. It is often difficult to recruit and retain mentors; however, research has shown that individuals are more likely to remain in mentoring programs if they feel adequately prepared to serve as mentors.<sup>19</sup> During the January–June 2017 reporting period, grantees and subgrantees reported that 73 percent of mentors trained demonstrated increased knowledge in the program area; during the July–December 2017 reporting period, 62 percent of trained mentors demonstrated increased knowledge. The percentage of mentors demonstrating increased knowledge due to training coupled with the high mentor retention rate during both reporting periods suggest mentors feel adequately prepared to perform their duties.

Table 8: Trained Mentors with Increased Knowledge (January–December 2017)<sup>20</sup>

Performance Measure	January–June 2017	July–December 2017
Trained mentors demonstrating increased knowledge	25,006	22,727
Total number of trained program mentors	34,277	36,547
Percent of trained program mentors with increased knowledge of the program area	73%	62%

<sup>18</sup> 499 grantees and subgrantees reported on this measure during the January–June 2017 reporting period; 592 grantees and subgrantees reported on this measure during the July–December 2017 reporting period. Earlier reporting periods ranged between 222 and 457 grantees and subgrantees reporting on the measure.

<sup>19</sup> See Adrienne Fernandes-Alcantara. *Vulnerable Youth: Federal Mentoring Programs and Issues*, (Congressional Research Service, 2017) <https://fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/RL34306.pdf>

<sup>20</sup> 449 grantees and subgrantees reported on this measure during the January–June 2017 reporting period; 409 grantees and subgrantees reported on this measure during the July–December 2017 reporting period.

## Summary

During the January–June 2017 reporting period, there were 581 reported mentoring programs; of those, 96 percent implemented evidence-based practices in their Juvenile Mentoring programs. In total, 119,814 youth were served during the reporting period, and 49 percent of youth who left the program during the reporting period successfully completed all program requirements. The percentage of youth served using an evidence-based program or practice during the January–June 2017 reporting period increased from 65 percent during July–December 2016 to 94 percent during January–June 2017. With 41,798 active mentors, 87 percent of youth were matched with a mentor, and 90 percent of program mentors remained in the program throughout the reporting period. 59 percent of youth exhibited a desired change in a targeted behavior, with most showing improvements in occupational skills trainings and substance abuse. In addition, the data show that less than 1 percent of youth offended while in a mentoring program and up to 6 months after exiting the program, and just 5 percent offended 6–12 months after they left the program.

During the July–December 2017 reporting period, there were 669 reported mentoring programs; of those, 95 percent implemented evidence-based practices in their Juvenile Mentoring programs. In total, 116,450 youth were served during the reporting period, and 76 percent of youth who left the program during the reporting period successfully completed all program requirements. With 45,031 active mentors, the mentor retention rate remained high with 86 percent of program mentors remaining active throughout the reporting period. The high retention rate could be partially attributed to the number of grantees who reported an increase in knowledge following training; mentors who feel they are adequately prepared are more likely to stay in programs. 91 percent of youth were matched with a mentor, and 58 percent of youth exhibited a desired change in a targeted behavior with youth receiving services to address behaviors associated with gang resistance/involvement showing the greatest improvement during the reporting period. In addition, the data show that less than 1 percent of youth offended while enrolled in a mentoring program and up to 6 months after exiting the program. Although still low, the percentage of tracked youth arrested or appearing in juvenile court within 6–12 months of exiting a mentoring program more than doubled (from 5 to 13 percent) from the last reporting period; however, less than 1 percent of youth were committed to a juvenile facility or sentenced to an adult prison.