



Office of Juvenile Justice
and Delinquency Prevention

VIOLENCE PREVENTION

PERFORMANCE REPORT

January-June 2018

ENHANCING SAFETY • ENSURING ACCOUNTABILITY • EMPOWERING YOUTH

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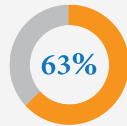
INTRODUCTION

The Violence Prevention program, administered by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), funds initiatives to promote the healthy development of youth and families; prevent and reduce violence and victimization; and improve community capacity to address all forms of violence and the impact of trauma. OJJDP’s Violence Prevention program supports creation of cross-sector community-based collaborations and the development of fully comprehensive data-driven strategies and prevention and intervention efforts. Collaborations engage a broad spectrum of local leaders, educators, youth-serving practitioners, decisionmakers, public systems’ leaders, and families and youth.

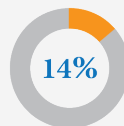
Highlights

13,394
NUMBER OF YOUTH SERVED

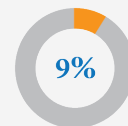
Demonstrating Positive Behavior Change



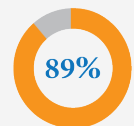
Youth Offending



Youth Reoffending



Grantees Implementing Evidence-based Programs



OVERVIEW OF AWARD INFORMATION

During the January–June 2018 activity period, OJJDP’s Violence Prevention program funded 42 awards. Seventy-one percent of grantees completed their reporting requirements and had grant activity (operational). The total amount of awards exceeded \$38 million, with 46 percent of grants awarded to local government agencies (figure 1). Other types of grantees included juvenile justice organizations, law enforcement, and nonprofit organizations. OJJDP funds a variety of programs that reflect different program focus areas, 64 percent implemented system improvement programs, 54 percent of grantees implemented intervention programs, and 54 percent implemented direct service prevention programs (figure 2). Twenty of the grantees implemented a combination of these types of programs.

Figure 1. Award Details

42
Total Grant Recipients

71%
Compliant with Reporting Requirements

28
Operational Grantees (provided services during the period)

46%
Grantees from Local Government

\$38.8
Total Funding (in millions)

Figure 2. Types of program activities reported by grantees

64%
Grantees Reported System Improvement Activities

54%
Grantees Reported Direct Service Intervention Activities

54%
Grantees Reported Direct Service Prevention Activities

GRANTEE PERFORMANCE

Performance measurement data help OJJDP determine whether the Violence Prevention program achieved its goals and objectives and how to improve policy decisions. OJJDP requires grantees to report on several core measures, including youth served, target behaviors, offending, and reoffending outcomes. Violence Prevention grantees who engage in system improvement or training and technical assistance (TTA) report on performance measures related to those activities, such as policies or procedures changed and the number of trainings conducted.

EVIDENCE-BASED PROGRAMS

OJJDP encourages grantees to use evidence-based programs. Evidence-based programs include program models shown, through rigorous evaluation and replication, to be effective at preventing or reducing juvenile delinquency or related risk factors. Violence Prevention grantees utilize evidence-based programs and strategies to address the risks and impact of community violence on youth, including gang suppression, prevention, and intervention. Additionally, Violence Prevention grantees use evidence-based programs to promote positive development and well-being for youth exposed to violence. During the January–June 2018 activity period, 89 percent of Violence Prevention grantees used federal funds to implement an evidence-based program or practice.

YOUTH SERVED

Violence Prevention grantees provide information on the number of youth served during each activity period. During the January–June 2018 activity period, Violence Prevention grantees served a total of 13,394 youth. Additionally, 28 percent ($n = 3,715$) received services for the first time. Ninety-nine percent of program youth were served using an evidence-based program or practice ($n = 13,279$).

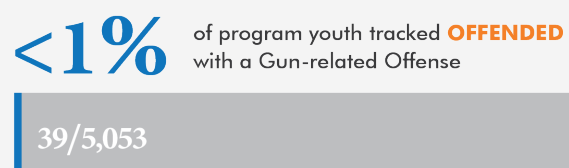
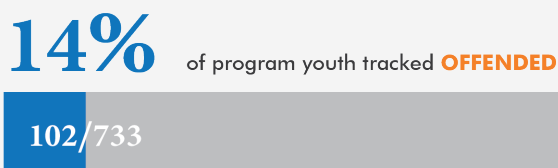
3,715

Youth Receiving
Services for the First Time

PROGRAM YOUTH OFFENSES

To track the success of reducing violence and preventing victimization, grantees monitor program youth for offending behaviors while enrolled in the program or 0–6 months after exiting the program.¹ Fourteen percent of the youth tracked during the period were arrested or appeared in juvenile court for a delinquent offense while in the program or within 6 months after exiting the program. Less than 1 percent of youth experienced a gun-related arrest or referral to juvenile court for a gun-related delinquent offense (figure 3).

Figure 3. Short-term Offending Data



¹ Long-term offense data (6–12 months after exiting the program) is unavailable for the January–June 2018 activity period.

PROGRAM YOUTH RECIDIVISM

OJJDP requires grantees to report on recidivism measures to track reoffending outcomes for youth while enrolled in the program or 0–6 months after exiting the program.² These youth are typically served in OJJDP funded intervention programs to prevent subsequent offending behaviors. Nine percent of the youth tracked during the activity period reoffended and 3 percent of youth reoffended with behavior involving a gun (gun-related offense) (figure 4).

Figure 4. Short-term Reoffending Data

9% of program youth tracked **REOFFENDED**

68/727

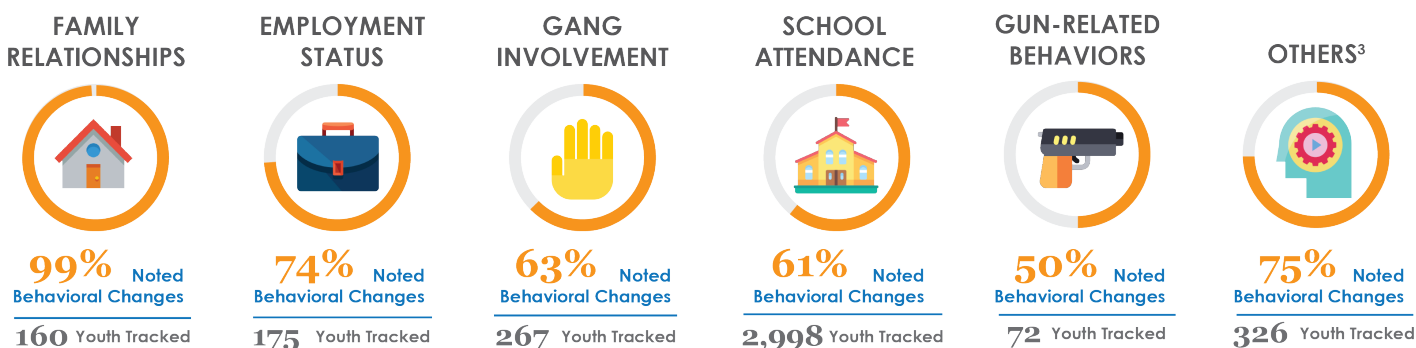
3% of program youth tracked **REOFFENDED** with a Gun-related Offense

19/752

TARGET BEHAVIORS

Youth participating in the Violence Prevention program are tracked for behavior changes which measure the program’s impact on youth outcomes in several targeted areas, such as school attendance and gang involvement. During the January–June 2018 activity period, youth exhibited the most behavioral improvement in family relationships (99 percent). Additionally, 50 percent of youth exhibited a decrease in gun-related behaviors. Overall, 64 percent of program youth exhibited a desired change in a targeted behavior (figure 5).

Figure 5. Outcome Percentages for the Specified Target Behaviors



² Long-term recidivism data (6–12 months after exiting the program) is unavailable for the January–June 2018 activity period.

³ Other target behaviors include GED completion, job skills, substance use, high school completion, community involvement, occupational skill training, and change in knowledge.

SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT

System improvement activities promote systems and policy enhancements by addressing youth violence at the national, state, and local levels. Activities include stakeholder collaborations, policy and procedure changes, media coverage, and training events. A total of 199 new stakeholders joined grantees in violence prevention efforts, including government agencies, community groups, and nonprofit organizations, resulting in 42 new memoranda of understanding, and 16 policies created, amended, or rescinded (figure 6). Over 2,000 individuals received training on topics such as: risk, resiliency, and protective factors; trauma and its impact on children, youth, and families; adolescent development principles and how to apply them; and strategies for violence prevention. Of the training participants sharing post-training feedback, 73 percent reported increased knowledge or skills.

Figure 6. Performance Indicators for System Improvement Activities



CONCLUSION

OJJDP's Violence Prevention program funds grantee initiatives and activities to address the risks and impact of community violence on youth, including gang suppression, prevention, and intervention. Violence Prevention grantees encourage positive youth development and well-being for youth who are exposed to or perpetrated violence. As a response to violence and its impact on the lives of children, OJJDP has supported communities' efforts to form partnerships with police, mental health, child welfare, and other youth-serving agencies.

Through OJJDP's support of prevention and intervention services, community partnerships, and training opportunities, Violence Prevention grantees impact the lives of gang-involved youth and those at risk for exposure to violence. During the January–June 2018 activity period, 28 Violence Prevention grantees increased their outreach, serving a total of 13,394 youth, with 28 percent of program youth receiving services for the first time. Overall, 64 percent of program youth demonstrated a desired change in a targeted behavior in the short-term, with family relationships showing the greatest improvements. Violence Prevention grantees helped prevent 86 percent of program youth from offending during the activity period and 91 percent of youth from reoffending. System improvement activities implemented by Violence Prevention grantees also reached over 2,000 individuals through trainings, resulting in 73 percent of participants self-reporting an improvement of knowledge or skills. In addition, 199 new stakeholders joined grantees in their Violence Prevention activities and initiatives to prevent and reduce violence in the community.