

Overview of DCTAT Data for the Juvenile Accountability Block Grants (JABG) Program

Since 2002, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) has administered the Juvenile Accountability Block Grants (JABG) program, which seeks to reduce juvenile offending through both offender- and system-focused initiatives that promote offender accountability. The program imposes graduated sanctions according to the nature and severity of the offense. It also attempts to strengthen juvenile justice systems so they are better able to track juveniles through the system and to provide better alternatives such as restitution, community service, victim-offender mediation, and other restorative justice sanctions.

This performance report provides an overview of the Data Collection and Technical Assistance Tool (DCTAT) data for JABG grantees as reported for the April 2010 through March 2011 reporting period.¹ The system was closed for reporting on July 30, 2011, as the DCTAT JABG module underwent a few significant changes, allowing grantees more time to enter program performance measurement data. The report is divided into three sections. Section 1 provides information regarding JABG awards across all reporting periods, as well as for the current reporting period. Section 2 provides an overview of OJJDP core performance measures data as reported by JABG grantees. The third section highlights the narrative response data by purpose area, including program goals accomplished and problems/barriers encountered by the grantees. In addition, any assistance that the organizations feel OJJDP could provide to address these problems/barriers will be discussed.

1.0 Award Information

Across all reporting periods, grantees have completed a total of 302 out of 392 sets of program data.² The largest number of grantees reported in the second, fifth, and sixth reporting periods, as shown in Table 1.0. There was 95 percent compliance in reporting for these grantees, while in the most recent reporting period, it dropped to 63 percent.

Table 1.0. Status of Grantee Reporting by Period

Reporting Periods	Status			
	Not Started	In Progress	Complete	Total
April 2004–March 2005	13	35	8	56
April 2005–March 2006	0	3	53	56
April 2006–March 2007	2	6	48	56
April 2007–March 2008	0	4	52	56
April 2008–March 2009	0	3	53	56
April 2009–March 2010	0	3	53	56
April 2010–March 2011	1	20	35	56
Total	16	74	302	392

¹ The data reported to OJJDP have undergone reporting system-level validation and verification checks. In addition, OJJDP conducts reviews of the aggregate data findings and grantee-level data reports for obvious errors or inconsistencies. A formal plan for verifying grantee-level performance measures data is being developed and will be implemented in 2012.

² Funds are provided as block grants to states for programs promoting greater accountability in the juvenile justice system. Local and tribal governments can then apply to the states for funds to support local accountability programs.

Overview of DCTAT Data for the Juvenile Accountability Block Grants (JABG) Program

Across the reporting periods, the number of grantees providing data for different purpose areas varied. The largest number reported data on accountability-based programs, followed by court/probation programming; however, the number of grantees selecting these purpose areas has generally declined across the reporting periods. Initially, reentry programming represented the purpose area with the fewest grantees. This remained steady throughout the first three reporting periods, but has risen slightly in the most recent years, most likely due to a renewed emphasis on reentry programs. This information follows in Figure 1.0.

Figure 1.0. Awards by Purpose Area, Across All Reporting Periods

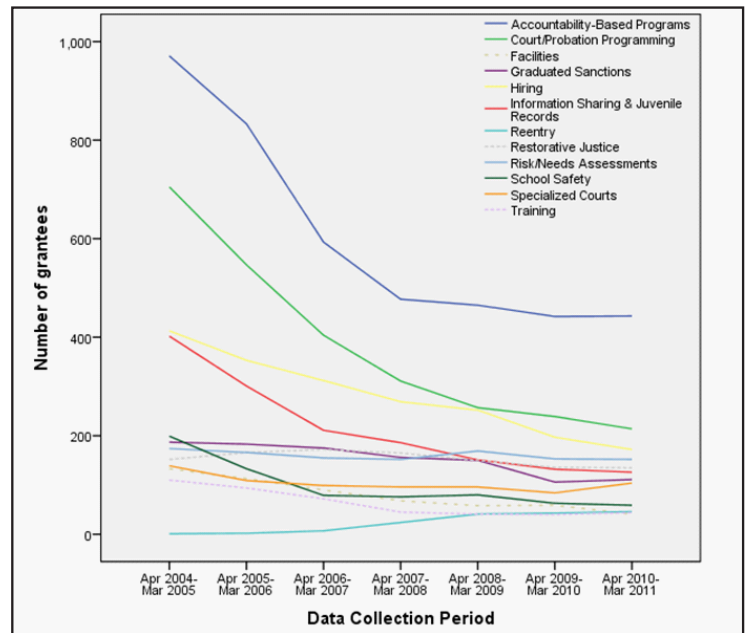
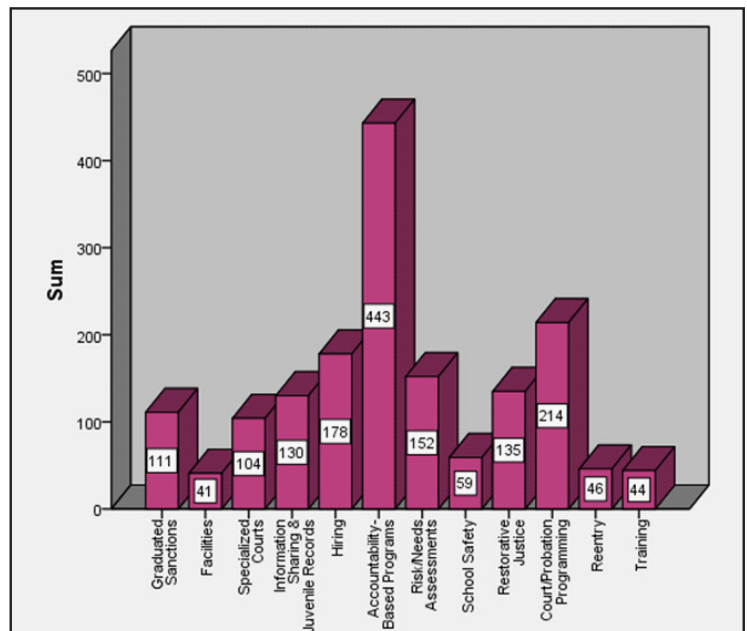


Figure 1.1 depicts the distribution of subgrantees per purpose area during the April 2010–March 2011 reporting period.

Figure 1.1. Distribution of Subgrants by Purpose Area, During the Current Reporting Period



Overview of DCTAT Data for the Juvenile Accountability Block Grants (JABG) Program

Figure 1.2 depicts the number of subgrants by Federal fiscal year (FFY) across all reporting periods. Table 2.0 depicts the total award amount by FFY across all reporting periods, as well as the mean award amount per FFY.

Figure 1.2. Number of Subgrants by Federal Fiscal Year, Across All Reporting Periods

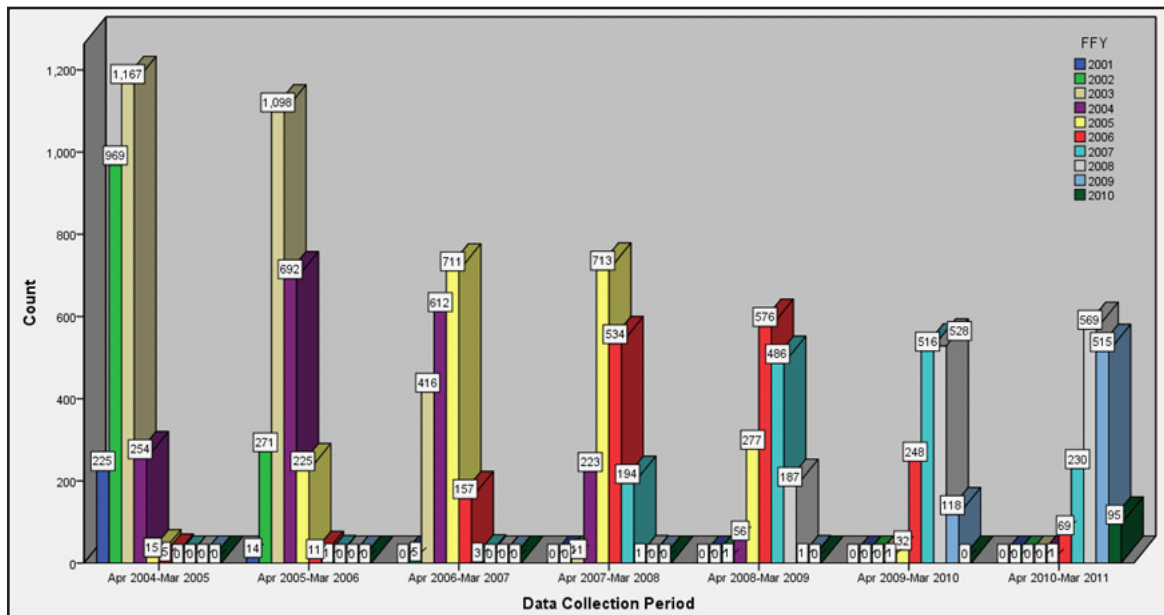


Table 2.0. Total Award Amount by Federal Fiscal Year, Across All Reporting Periods

FFY	Data Collection Periods							Mean
	Apr 2004 – Mar 2005	Apr 2005 – Mar 2006	Apr 2006 – Mar 2007	Apr 2007 – Mar 2008	Apr 2008 – Mar 2009	Apr 2009 – Mar 2010	Apr 2010 – Mar 2011	
2001	\$21,616,421	\$966,651	-	-	-	-	-	\$11,291,536
2002	\$97,846,556	\$31,633,435	\$361,527	-	-	-	-	\$43,280,506
2003	\$68,513,812	\$68,290,786	\$32,533,892	\$1,110,111	\$8,693	-	-	\$34,091,459
2004	\$15,609,066	\$30,712,193	\$27,868,640	\$14,247,912	\$3,365,140	\$584,250	-	\$15,397,867
2005	\$413,319	\$23,070,305	\$34,563,480	\$33,238,767	\$15,003,803	\$2,967,330	\$253,602	\$15,644,372
2006	-	\$557,979	\$10,114,814	\$26,737,871	\$28,271,277	\$13,707,081	\$2,779,237	\$13,694,710
2007	-	-	\$30,582	\$12,654,758	\$26,166,126	\$26,065,481	\$16,103,887	\$16,204,167
2008	-	-	-	\$20,914	\$10,901,747	\$23,179,511	\$30,743,554	\$16,211,432
2009	-	-	-	-	\$64,880	\$6,959,173	\$27,169,156	\$11,397,736
2010	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$9,311,709	\$9,311,709

Overview of DCTAT Data for the Juvenile Accountability Block Grants (JABG) Program

Figure 1.3 illustrates the number of subgrants by FFY during the April 2010–March 2011 reporting period. The majority of awards were financed by 2008 funds (n=569), followed by FFY 2009 at 515 awards. Figure 1.4 depicts the award amounts by FFY. FFY 2008 marked the largest total award amount at \$30,743,554, while FFY 2009 followed closely with \$27,169,156 awarded.

Figure 1.3. Number of Subgrants, by Federal Fiscal Year, During the Current Reporting Period

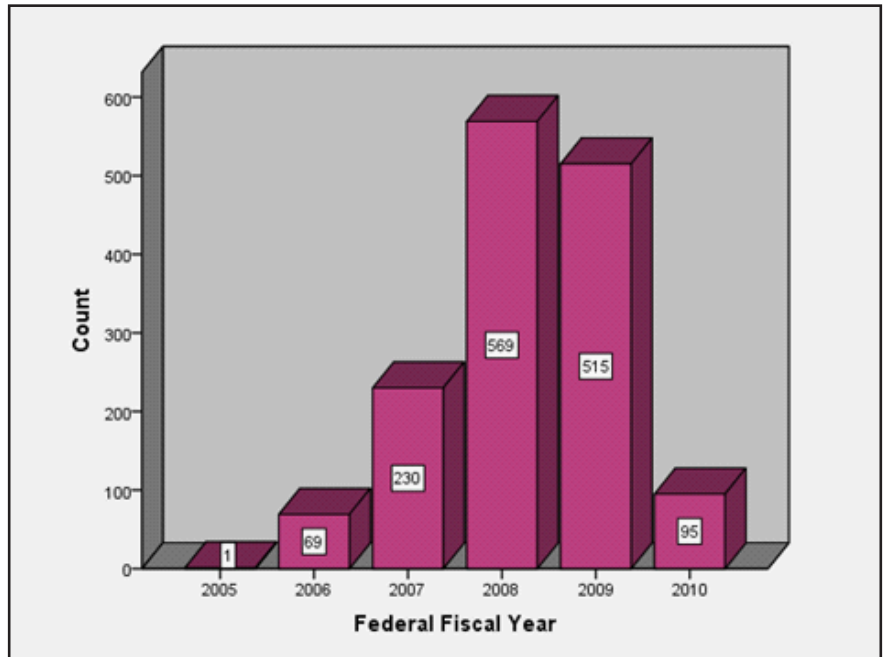
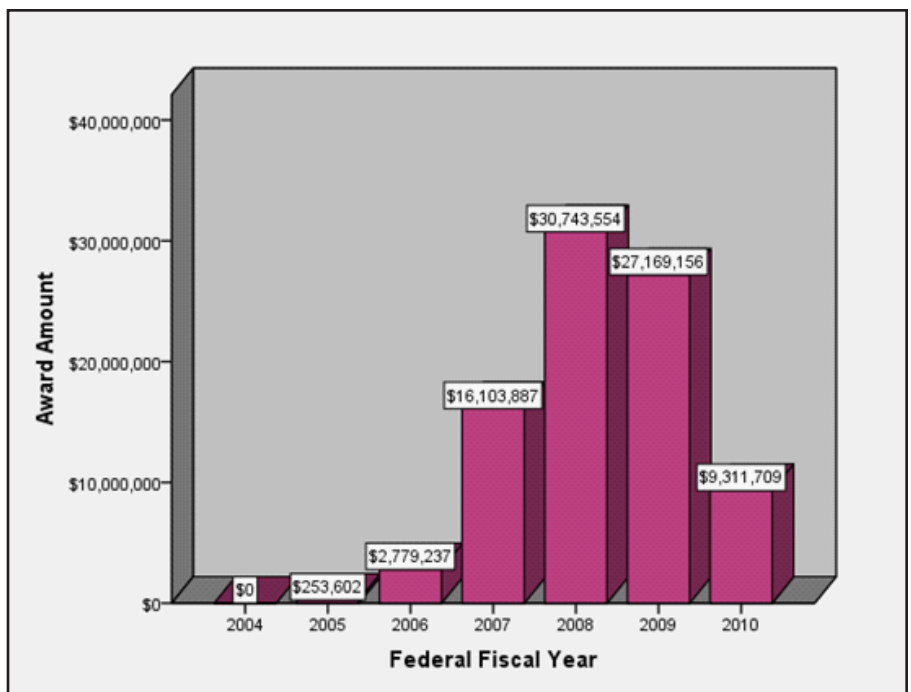


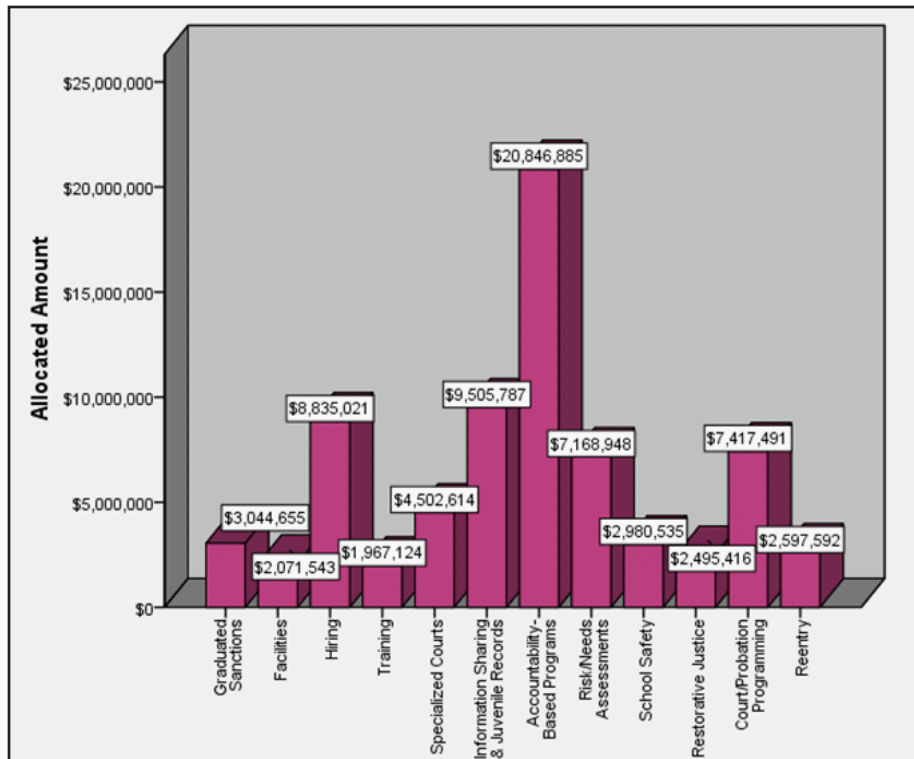
Figure 1.4. Award Amounts by Federal Fiscal Year, During the Current Reporting Period



Overview of DCTAT Data for the Juvenile Accountability Block Grants (JABG) Program

Figure 1.5 shows award amount allocations by purpose area for the current reporting period. Accountability-based programs have consistently represented the highest funded purpose area in JABG, followed by Information Sharing and Juvenile Records during this data collection period.³

Figure 1.5. Award Amounts by Purpose Area, During the Current Reporting Period

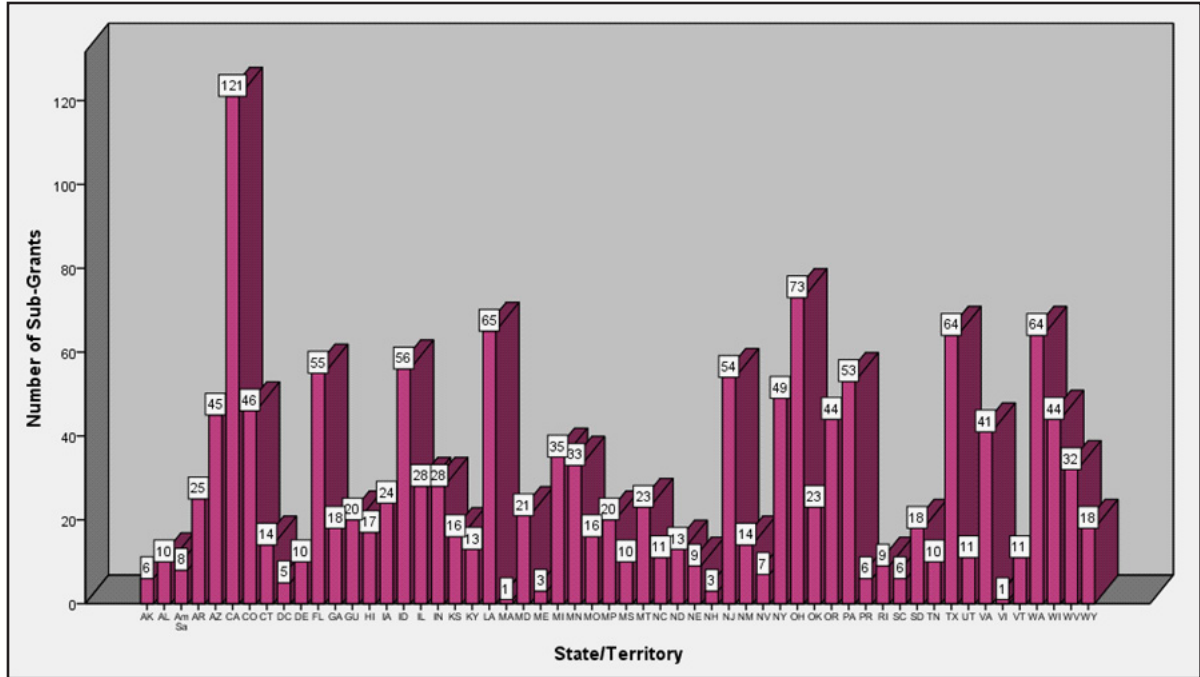


³ Information Sharing and Juvenile Records are different purpose areas in the DCTAT. However, for the purposes of this report, they are combined here. The category Hiring is also an aggregate of Hiring Court Staff/Pretrial Services, Hiring Prosecutors, Funding for Prosecutors, and Hiring Detention/Corrections staff. In addition, the purpose areas Gun Courts and Drug Courts were combined into Specialized Courts.

Overview of DCTAT Data for the Juvenile Accountability Block Grants (JABG) Program

The number of subgrants by state is shown in Figure 1.6. California awarded the largest number of subgrants (n=121), followed by Ohio (n=73) and Louisiana (n=65).

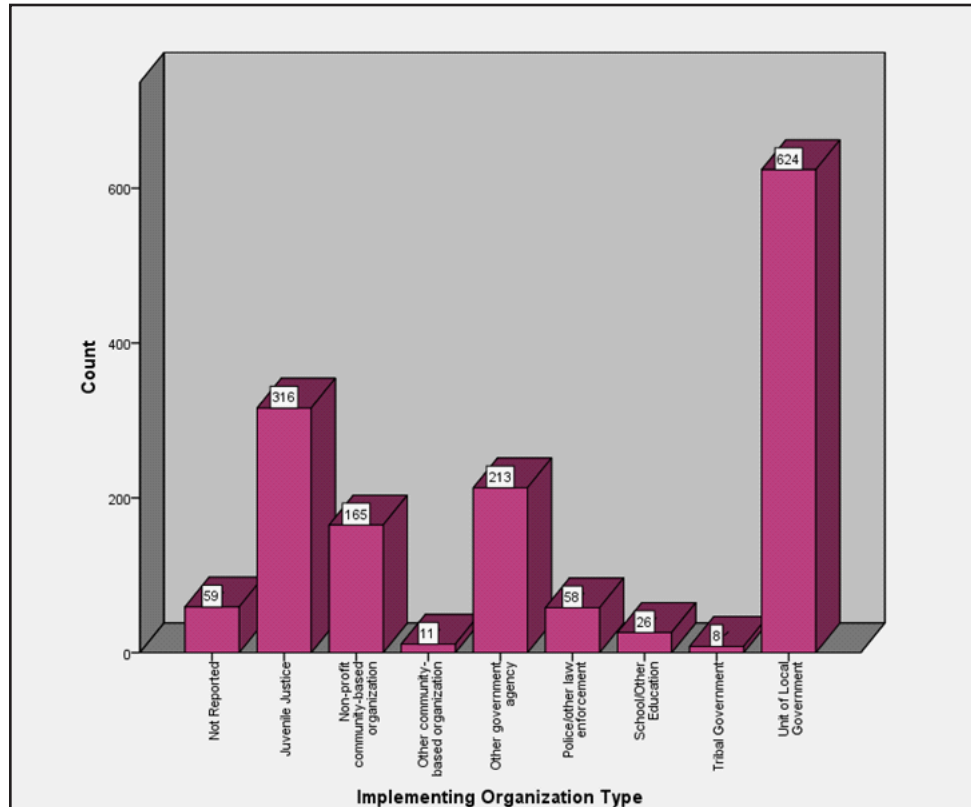
Figure 1.6. Subgrants by State



Overview of DCTAT Data for the Juvenile Accountability Block Grants (JABG) Program

Analysis of implementing organizations revealed that 624 grantees represented units of local government, while 316 classified themselves as juvenile justice organizations. This is illustrated in Figure 1.7.

Figure 1.7. Implementing Organization



Overview of DCTAT Data for the Juvenile Accountability Block Grants (JABG) Program

Table 3 provides an aggregate of demographic data during the April 2010–March 2011 reporting period. More specifically, the numbers below represent the population actually served by JABG grantees during their project period. Targeted services include any services or approaches specifically designed to meet the needs of the population (e.g., gender-specific, culturally based, developmentally appropriate services).

Table 3. Target Population, During the Current Reporting Period

	Population	Number of Grantees Who Served This Group During the Project Period
RACE/ETHNICITY	American Indian/Alaskan Native	517
	Asian	571
	Black/African American	1,077
	Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	993
	Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	346
	Other Race	635
	White/Caucasian	1,112
	Youth population not served directly	241
JUSTICE	At-Risk Population (no prior offense)	514
	First Time Offenders	1,058
	Repeat Offenders	877
	Sex Offenders	365
	Status Offenders	553
	Violent Offenders	517
	Youth population not served directly	238
GENDER	Male	1,208
	Female	1,143
	Youth population not served directly	239
AGE	0–5	14
	6–7	30
	8–9	78
	10–11	706
	12–13	984
	14–15	1,181
	16–17	1,155
	18 and over	278
	Youth population not served directly	242
GEO	Rural	757
	Suburban	554
	Tribal	83
	Urban	598
	Youth population not served directly	237
OTHER	Mental Health	440
	Substance Abuse	629
	Truant/Dropout	524

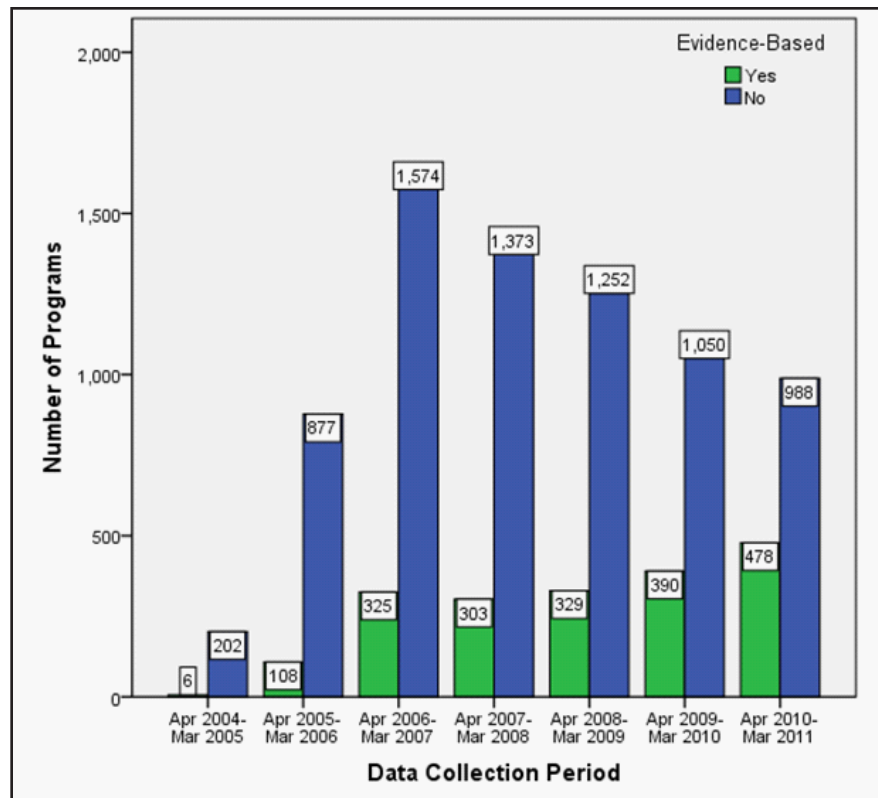
Overview of DCTAT Data for the Juvenile Accountability Block Grants (JABG) Program

2.0 Analysis of JABG Core Performance Measures

The April 2010–March 2011 reporting period introduced a new format for reporting on core measures—measures that OJJDP uses in all of its funded programs. OJJDP uses these data to report on how it funds programs and services for youth nationwide, from prevention through reentry assistance. The goal is to prevent the double-reporting of data for the core measures currently replicated across program categories within a single Federal program, like JABG. There is now a category called “Core Measures.” The data reported for these represent all youth who participate in all programs and services funded by a specific Federal-year JABG award.

The number of evidence-based programs increased significantly in the third reporting period, leveling off to 390 in the April 2009–March 2010 period. However, in the most recent reporting period, the number of programs identified as being evidence-based rose considerably to 478 (Figure 2.0).

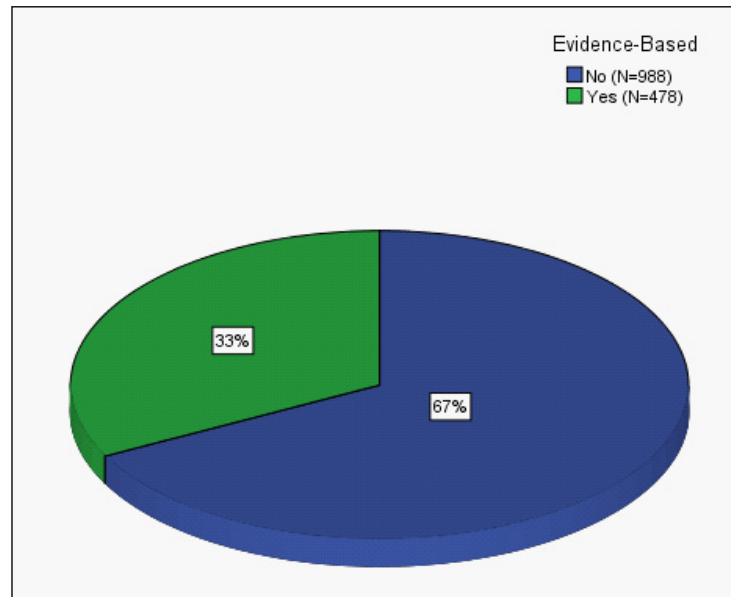
Figure 2.0. Programs Implementing Evidence-Based Programs, Across All Reporting Periods



Overview of DCTAT Data for the Juvenile Accountability Block Grants (JABG) Program

As shown in Figure 2.1, 478 JABG subgrants (33 percent) are employing evidence-based practices or programs.

Figure 2.1. Percent of Subgrants Operating Evidence-Based Programs



As shown in Table 2.0, 468,472 program youth and/or families were served during the reporting period. Of those, 119,640 youth were served using an evidence-based practice. In addition, of the 241,350 youth who left the program during this period, 207,062 (85.79 percent) exited having completed program requirements.

Table 2.0. OJJDP Core Measures: April 2010–March 2011

Performance Indicator	Number of Youth		
Number of program youth and/or families served during the reporting period	468,472		
Number of youth with whom an EB practice is used	119,640		
Performance Indicator	Completed	Total Number	Percent
Percent of program youth who complete program requirements	207,062	241,350	85.79%

The success of the JABG program is largely dependent on the offending and reoffending, or recidivism, rates of the program youth. The number of youth who offend while still in the program remained relatively low, as shown in Table 2.1. For the reporting period, 169,696 youth were tracked for a new arrest or delinquent offense. Of those, 14,479 had a new arrest or delinquent offense. In addition, 7,123 program youth were recommitted to a juvenile facility, 611 were sentenced to adult prison, and 2,802 received some other sentence as a result of a new arrest or delinquent offense during the reporting period.

Overview of DCTAT Data for the Juvenile Accountability Block Grants (JABG) Program

However, long-term measurement (defined as 6 to 12 months post-program) yielded a higher rate of 22.71 percent for program youth who had a new arrest or delinquent offense (also shown in Table 2.1). An analysis of the data also revealed that 440 youth were recommitted to a juvenile facility, 14 were sentenced to adult prison, and 596 received some other sentence as a result of a new arrest or delinquent offense during the reporting period.

Table 2.1. Number and Percent of Program Youth who OFFEND During the Reporting Period (Short and Long Term)

Performance Indicator	No. of Youth	% of Youth who Offend
No. of program youth tracked during reporting period (short term)	169,696	
No. of program youth who had a new arrest or delinquent offense during reporting period	14,479	8.53%
No. of program youth committed to a juvenile facility during reporting period	7,123	4.2%
No. of program youth sentenced to adult prison during reporting period	611	<1.0%
No. of youth who received another sentence during reporting period	2,802	1.65%
Total	25,015/169,696	14.74%
Performance Indicator	No. of Youth	% of Youth who Offend
No. of program youth who exited program 6–12 months ago who were tracked (long term)	24,892	
No. of program youth who had a new arrest or delinquent offense during reporting period	5,654	22.71%
No. of program youth committed to a juvenile facility during reporting period	440	1.77%
No. of program youth sentenced to adult prison during reporting period	14	<1.0%
No. of youth who received another sentence during reporting period	596	2.39%
Total	6,704/24,892	26.93%

Overview of DCTAT Data for the Juvenile Accountability Block Grants (JABG) Program

As shown in Table 2.2, the recidivism rates among youth still in the program also remained relatively low. For the reporting period, 223,851 youth were tracked for a new arrest or delinquent offense. Of those, 20,066 had a new arrest or delinquent offense. In addition, 4,650 program youth were committed to a juvenile facility, 609 were sentenced to adult prison, and 2,762 received some other sentence as a result of a new arrest or delinquent offense during the reporting period.

Long-term measurement of the recidivism indicator revealed that, of the 47,942 youth who exited the program 6 to 12 months ago and were tracked, 22,676 had a new arrest or delinquent offense during the reporting period. Moreover, the data also indicated that 2,536 were committed to a juvenile facility, 27 were sentenced to adult prison, and 556 received some other sentence as a result of a new arrest or delinquent offense during the reporting period.

Table 2.2. Number and Percent of Program Youth who REOFFEND (Short and Long Term)

Performance Indicator	No. of Youth	% of Recidivists
No. of program youth tracked during reporting period (short term)	223,851	
No. of program youth who had a new arrest or delinquent offense during reporting period	20,066	8.96%
No. of program youth committed to a juvenile facility during reporting period	4,650	2.08%
No. of program youth sentenced to adult prison during reporting period	609	<1.0%
No. of youth who received another sentence during reporting period	2,762	1.23%
Total	28,087/223,851	12.55%
Performance Indicator	No. of Youth	% of Recidivists
No. of program youth who exited program 6–12 months ago who were tracked (long term)	47,942	
No. of program youth who had a new arrest or delinquent offense during reporting period	22,676	47.30%
No. of program youth committed to a juvenile facility during reporting period	2,536	5.29%
No. of program youth sentenced to adult prison during reporting period	27	<1.0%
No. of youth who received another sentence during reporting period	556	1.16%
Total	25,795/47,942	53.8%

Overview of DCTAT Data for the Juvenile Accountability Block Grants (JABG) Program

Table 2.3 displays the percentages of youth who exhibited improvement in selected target behaviors (short term). Eighty-two percent of participating youth exhibited the most improvement in substance use and social competence. School attendance followed closely, with 78 percent of youth exhibiting improvement in this target behavior during the reporting period.

Table 2.3. Target Behaviors: April 2010–March 2011

Target Behavior	No. of Youth Receiving Services for Behavior	No. of Youth with Noted Behavioral Change	% of Youth with Noted Behavioral Change
Social Competence	18,310	14,980	81.81%
School Attendance	9,235	7,180	77.75%
GPA	2,180	1,091	50.05%
GED	2,552	189	7.41%
High School Completion	2,142	993	46.36%
Job Skills	1,756	1,005	57.23%
Employment Status	2,123	1,039	48.94%
Family Relationships	5,456	4,013	73.55%
Family Functioning	2,223	1,520	68.38%
Antisocial Behavior	56,273	40,176	71.39%
Substance Use	22,334	18,419	82.47%
Gang-Related Activities	3,524	2,140	60.73%
Cultural Skill Building/ Cultural Pride	339	82	24.19%
Total	128,447	92,827	72.27%

Overview of DCTAT Data for the Juvenile Accountability Block Grants (JABG) Program

3.0 Narrative Response Data

Program Goals Accomplished: April 2010–March 2011

During the reporting period, JABG grantees reported many accomplishments, encompassing all 17 of the purpose areas established for the Federal grant program. For example, Alaska's Department of Health and Social Services, Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ), is focused on upgrading electronic monitoring (EM) equipment. The grantee reported that negotiations are underway with a contractor to trade in older or used equipment for new, more advanced equipment, including GPS units. Moreover, the staff is continually updated on training opportunities, and Restorative Justice Teleconferences with DJJ staff continue quarterly. DJJ hopes to increase the use of its EM program by initiating the steps mentioned above.

The American Samoa Criminal Justice Planning Agency, focusing on the Facilities and Information Sharing purpose areas, noted its major accomplishment of keeping its only juvenile detention facility in operation. The facility lacks local funding support. The JABG funds enabled the agency to work closely with the Department of Public Safety to provide materials and supplies to keep the facility in operation. This included hiring two juvenile officers for permanent assignment. In addition, the agency was also able to provide additional workers to help with the facility's daily operations, including building maintenance, landscaping, and, most importantly, meal preparation for the youth. JABG funds also made renovation of the facility possible, as the building is about 13 years old and has been damaged by several hurricanes.

The Arkansas Department of Human Services (DHS)/Division of Youth Services, reporting data on 11 of the 17 purpose areas, noted how several of its programs accomplished milestones with limited funding. For example, the City of Little Rock's program created "wraparound" services. Essentially, the program not only gives students with behavioral and self-esteem issues an opportunity to change their antisocial and destructive behavior, but also gives them a chance to regain access to mainstream education after receiving training and job readiness skills. The program also offers a number of life/coping skills to deter the recurrence of past behaviors. In addition, a public information campaign—"Truth of Youth," received national attention. It delivers a series of messages highlighting the human and financial costs of secure confinement for youth who pose no risk to themselves and others. It also relays information on the effectiveness of community-based treatment strategies for children, youth, and families.

Subgrantees of the Arizona Governor's Office for Children, Youth and Families reported using both paid and non-paid interns to help facilitate programs. The subgrantees also focused on the success of collaborations by establishing quarterly meetings.

Working together and establishing clear lines of communication with outside entities were significant accomplishments of many JABG grantees. For example, the Connecticut Office of Policy and Management reported that the state's two agencies responsible for juvenile justice duties became partners in addressing disproportionate minority contact (DMC) in Connecticut's juvenile justice system. The grantee also began a DMC initiative using youth-development principles with youth and adult staff in community programs to address DMC and relations with police. Thus it addressed its goal of increased information sharing. Likewise, the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice used JABG funds to strengthen its partnership with the Florida Supreme Court and enhance the Drug Court program. More specifically, the grantee sought to expand its Juvenile Court Improvement Project and address the three specific areas of disproportionate minority confinement, restorative justice, and juvenile drug court capacity.

During the April 2010– March 2011 reporting period, California used JABG funds to support numerous activities across the state aimed at reducing juvenile offending through accountability-based programs focused on offenders and juvenile justice systems. The Corrections Standards Authority (CSA), as the Designated State Agency administering JABG funding, has responded to the unique needs of every project while supporting each with technical assistance, administrative guidance, and monitoring. JABG funding also has been used to promote the use of evidence-based practices to reduce recidivism, which has a direct impact on the

Overview of DCTAT Data for the Juvenile Accountability Block Grants (JABG) Program

state's goal of reducing the number of youth held in secure detention. The state also continues to promote healthy communities, families, and youth through the use of restorative justice principles. For example, the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) has played a pivotal role in ensuring that judges and related court partners statewide are aware of how evidence-based practices can be applied to all aspects of the court process, including restorative justice practices. CSA also has promoted the use of restorative justice by allowing JABG funds to be used by local governments to implement and/or strengthen restorative justice programs. Finally, as mentioned earlier, CSA emphasized the development of collaborations oriented to best practices and evidence-based approaches in handling juvenile cases.

The Florida Department of Juvenile Justice created the Evidence-Based Practices Initiative program, which advances the department's objective of using proven practices to reduce recidivism. Additionally, the department began developing the Residential Risk Management Instrument as a standardized method of identifying when programs are beginning to deteriorate, focusing on system improvement.

For the State of Delaware, JABG funding added public defense, mental health, probation-based aftercare services, and additional sanctions to improve its existing juvenile justice system. Delaware's JABG funding also strengthened the accountability of sanctions for juveniles who have been adjudicated delinquent by making criminal sanctions for every offense and every offender swifter, more certain, and more appropriate. Similarly, through the use of JABG funds, the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice was able to support the FAMU—the Situational Environmental Circumstances (SEC) Pilot Project. This project emphasizes nontraditional strategies to improve youth and family engagement and development, public safety, and existing juvenile services and programs. Specifically, this project will focus on individual development, academic/vocational achievement, job readiness, and family/community support.

Problems/Barriers Encountered: April 2010–March 2011

In addition to their accomplishments, JABG grantees noted a few significant problems/barriers that prevented them from reaching their goals or milestones during the reporting period. Employee transition and staff shortages and reduced funding were noted numerous times in grantees' narrative responses. One grantee noted the focus on the bad economy and limiting setbacks, rather than improving the system. In addition, training and education were identified as barriers to success. For example, although the Arkansas DHS/ Division of Youth Services offers training to its employees, stakeholders, and clientele training, more in-depth training and education is needed for this population to move forward.

The Government of Guam, selecting the purpose areas Drug Courts, Risk/Needs Assessments, and Hiring Detention/Corrections staff, noted the difficulty of delivering prevention and direct service activities. More specifically, the grantee noted that issues such as transportation, inability to contact parents, miscommunication between service providers, and inefficient government and nonprofit workers hinder the government's goals for the children and families. Another significant barrier: a lack of programming that matches the needs of the child and family.

The New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) reported that the subgranting process sometimes causes late contract approvals, resulting in some subgrantees accumulating large balances of unspent funds. DCJS staff are then responsible for deciding how best to reallocate these funds before the lapse date. However, by the time the reporting period ends, goals/milestones may not have been met by some of the organization's subgrantees.

Although California's CSA experienced no significant barriers in its efforts to reach its goals, the organization pointed out that these goals can never fully be attained and will always require continued pursuit and effort.

Requested OJJDP Assistance: April 2010–March 2011

A number of JABG grantees answered yes to the question concerning whether OJJDP could provide any assistance to address the problems/barriers they've encountered during the reporting period. Training and

Overview of DCTAT Data for the Juvenile Accountability Block Grants (JABG) Program

technical assistance were mentioned multiple times. For example, the Arkansas DHS/Division of Youth Services requested assistance for subgrant recipients and staff to better develop performance objectives/goals. California's CSA would like help identifying how it can more effectively and efficiently collect meaningful data from its subgrantees, as well as develop a reporting system for each subgrantee that matches its project activities with the Federal data elements required. The Government of Guam stated that technical assistance in the areas of sexual offending treatment, substance abuse assessment and treatment, therapeutic foster care, and transition program development would help its child-serving agencies.

The NYS DCJS asked OJJDP for ideas about how best to "reprogram" or utilize unspent funds in a timely manner while adhering to the program's original goals and objectives. The grantee also inquired if there is training on how to manage the flow of funds to subgrantees while ensuring programmatic success.