Overview of the DCTAT Data for Second Chance Act Juvenile Mentoring Initiative Grantees: July–December 2014

The Second Chance Act (SCA) Juvenile Mentoring Initiative, administered by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), provides grants to help organizations offer a combination of mentoring and other transitional services to juveniles. These services are essential in helping juvenile offenders reintegrate successfully into their communities.

Report Highlights

This performance report is an overview of the Data Collection and Technical Assistance Tool (DCTAT) data for SCA Juvenile Mentoring Initiative grantees as reported through December 31, 2014.[1] The report is divided into two sections. Section 1 introduces program information for SCA Juvenile Mentoring Initiative grantees, and Section 2 gives an analysis of core SCA Juvenile Mentoring measures. The highlights below refer to the July–December 2014 reporting period.

- Data were complete for all programs, a reporting compliance rate of 100 percent.
- The largest numbers of programs were with nonprofit community-based organizations, accounting for 70 percent of awards.
- Ten programs (100 percent) implemented evidence-based practices.
- Highlights for program youth include a short-term technical violations rate of 6 percent and a short-term recidivism rate of 10 percent.
- In the short term, participating youth showed the most improvement in a target behavior change for social competence (88 percent) and perception of social support (85 percent).

1. Examination of Program Information

Across all reporting periods, grantees have input 204 sets of program data, for a reporting compliance rate of 98 percent. From July to December 2014, data were complete for all active awards, for a reporting compliance rate of 100 percent (Table 1).

Table 1. Status of Grantee Reporting by Period: July 2009–December 2014

Data Reporting Period	Status			
	Not Started	In Progress	Complete	Total Awards
July–December 2009	0	0	11	11
January–June 2010	0	0	11	11
July–December 2010	0	0	20	20
January–June 2011	0	0	20	20
July–December 2011	2	0	26	28
January–June 2012	0	0	28	28
July–December 2012	0	0	27	27
January–June 2013	2	0	20	22
July–December 2013	1	0	20	21
January–June 2014	0	0	12	12
July–December 2014	0	0	9	9
Total	5	0	204	209

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[1] The data reported to OJJDP have undergone system-level validation and verification checks. OJJDP also conducts reviews of the aggregate data findings and grantee-level data reports for obvious errors or inconsistencies. A formal data validation and verification review will be completed during January–June 2015.

Table 2 presents aggregate demographic data for January 2013 to December 2014 and the number of grantees serving each population. There has been a dramatic decline in the number of SCA Mentoring grantees reporting in the DCTAT as they close out their awards. OJJDP awarded grants for mentoring projects targeting youth returning from juvenile justice facilities from 2009 to 2011. OJJDP has not released a Second Chance Act mentoring solicitation since 2011. Targeted services include any approaches specifically designed to meet the needs of the intended population (e.g., gender-specific, culturally based, and developmentally appropriate services).

Table 2. Grantees Serving Target Populations: January 2013–December 2014

Population	Grantees Serving Group During Project Period			
	January–June 2013	July–December 2013	January–June 2014	July–December 2014
Race/Ethnicity				
American Indian/Alaska Native	8	8	5	4
Asian	4	4	3	3
Black/African American	26	25	8	9
Hispanic or Latino (of Any Race)	25	25	8	7
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	4	4	4	2
Other Race	11	10	5	4
White/Caucasian	22	21	7	6
Caucasian/Non-Latino	8	8	7	6
Youth Population Not Served Directly	1	1	0	0
Justice System Status				
At-Risk Population (No Prior Offense)	6	6	1	1
First-Time Offenders	23	22	6	8
Repeat Offenders	28	27	7	8
Sex Offenders	5	5	3	3
Status Offenders	7	7	4	3
Violent Offenders	13	13	5	7
Youth Population Not Served Directly	1	1	0	0
Gender				
Male	31	30	8	9
Female	24	23	7	5
Youth Population Not Served Directly	1	1	0	0
Age				
0–10	2	2	1	1
11–18	32	31	8	9
Over 18	12	12	5	5
Youth Population Not Served Directly	1	1	0	0
Geographic Area				
Rural	15	15	5	5
Suburban	13	12	8	6
Tribal	1	1	1	1
Urban	26	26	5	6
Youth Population Not Served Directly	1	1	0	0
Other				
Mental Health	19	18	6	7
Substance Abuse	20	19	6	7
Truant/Dropout	19	18	6	7

1.1 Evidence-Based Programming and Funding Information

During the July–December 2014 reporting period, 100 percent ($5,387,529) of Federal funds were being spent by active SCA Juvenile Mentoring grantees and subgrantees who had implemented evidence-based programs and practices. In addition, 10 programs (100 percent) implemented such practices (Figure 1).

Figure 1. Evidence-Based Practices and Programs by Reporting Period: July 2009–December 2014
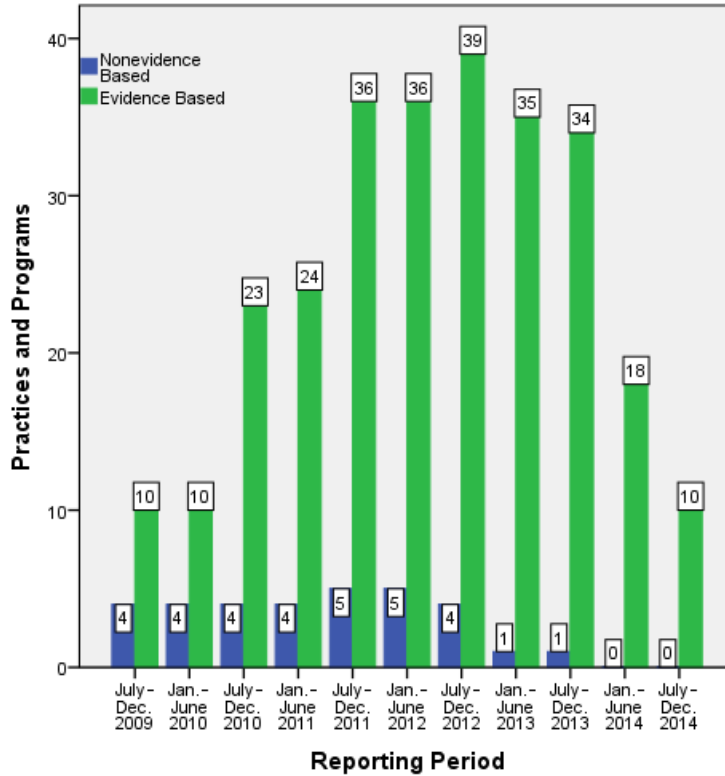
Also, the majority of SCA Juvenile Mentoring grantees and subgrantees reported offering a combination of pre- and post-release services.

1.2 Analysis of Baseline Recidivism Data

The baseline measures were established by OJJDP so that each grantee can report on the level of activity before the start of the OJJDP SCA Juvenile Mentoring Initiative award. Grantees are only asked to answer these questions during their first reporting period, regardless of whether they have award activity to report.

Analysis of the baseline recidivism data revealed that 274 youth qualified for the Reentry Program at the beginning of the grant (Table 3). Of those, 49 youth were enrolled. One organization indicated that three program youth had been adjudicated on more than one occasion. The remaining organizations likely did not have access to these data, as their programs may not have been operational prior to the start of the Federal award. As such, these numbers should be interpreted with caution.

Table 3. Baseline Recidivism Measures for Program Youth: July–December 2014

Performance Measure	Data
Program youth who have been adjudicated on more than one occasion	3
Program youth who qualify for the Reentry Program at the beginning of the grant	274
Enrollment at the beginning of the grant period	49

Analysis of grantee and subgrantee implementing organizations for this period revealed that the largest numbers of programs were with nonprofit community-based organizations (70 percent). Other government agencies accounted for 20 percent of awards (Figure 2).

Figure 2. Implementing Organizations (Percentage by Type): July–December 2014
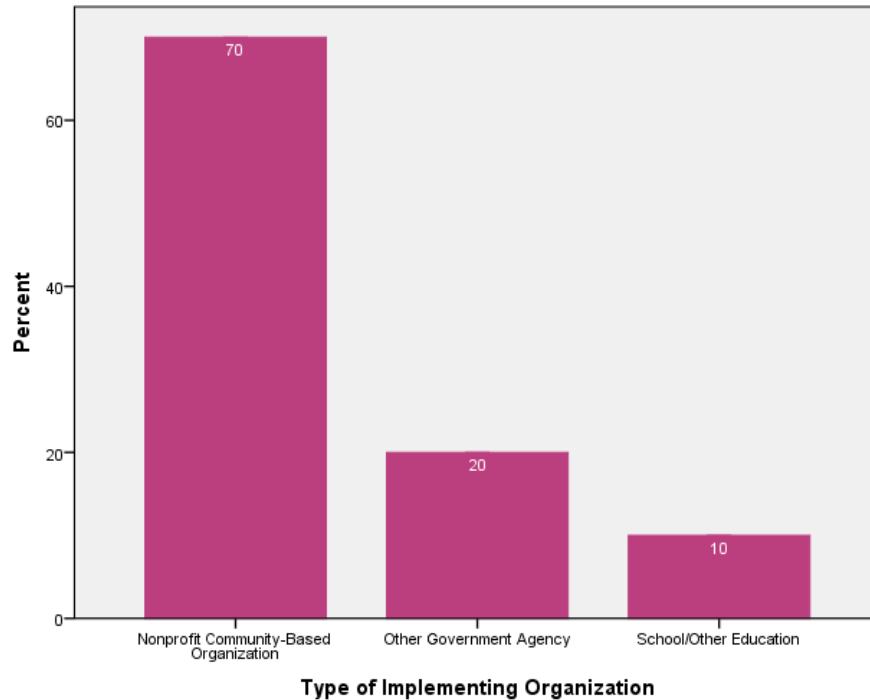
In examining SCA Juvenile Mentoring grant amounts by State or district for the most recent reporting period, based on current and active awards, Texas received the most funds. A more comprehensive comparison of Federal award amounts is shown in Table 4.

Table 4. Federal Award Amount by State or District (Dollars): July–December 2014

Grantee State	Federal Award Amount (Dollars)
DC	609,211
GA	625,000
MA	607,952
NY	609,289
OH	608,358
OR	624,824
PA	608,898
TX	1,093,997

2. Analysis of Core Measures

The next section presents an aggregate of performance measures data (Table 5). Of the 754 youth served by SCA Juvenile Mentoring grantees, 751 youth (99.6 percent) were served using an evidence-based program or practice. In addition, 255 eligible youth (50 percent) exited programs after completing program requirements. Each grantee defines the requirements needed for a youth to complete each program. Sometimes a program cannot be completed in the 6 months represented by the reporting period. For example, in one program, youth have to complete 9 months of mentoring to be considered successful. If a youth exits such a program for any reason before 9 months of mentoring is complete, he or she is considered unsuccessful. The lack of a shorter-term definition for program completion therefore decreases the overall program completion rate.

Table 5. Performance Measures for Program Youth Served: July–December 2014

Performance Measure	Youth		
Program youth served	754		
Program youth served using an evidence-based program or practice	751		
		Completed	**Percent**
Program youth completing program requirements	515	255	**50**

Performance measures data about the program mentors were also collected (Table 6). During the reporting period, 75 new program mentors were recruited. Of the 72 mentors who began training, 69 (96 percent) successfully completed it. Moreover, 111 mentors (63 percent) reported that they learned more about their program. Of the 457 mentors in the program during the reporting period, 373 (82 percent) remained active.

Collaboration with active partners also helps mentoring programs succeed, and 54 SCA Juvenile Mentoring programs reported having such partners during the reporting period.

Table 6. Performance Measures for Program Mentors: July–December 2014

Performance Measure	Mentors		
Program mentors recruited	75		
		Completed	**Percent**
Mentors successfully completing training	72	69	**96**
Trained mentors with increased knowledge of program area	175	111	**63**
		Active	**Percent**
Mentor retention rate	457 mentors	373 active mentors	**82**

The success of the SCA Juvenile Mentoring Initiative is largely dependent on the reoffending rates of the program youth. Technical violations and actual new adjudications are measured separately to allow for a better understanding of the population being served by the grant. As shown in Table 7, 682 youth were tracked for technical violations. Of those, 23 were committed to a juvenile residential facility, and 20 received some other sentence.

Long-term measurement of technical violations revealed that 460 youth who exited the program 6 to 12 months ago were tracked for technical violations during the reporting period. Of those, 17 were committed to a juvenile residential facility, and 23 received some other sentence.

Table 7. Technical Violation Measures for Program Youth Tracked: July–December 2014

Performance Measure		Youth	Percent
Youth tracked (short-term outcome)		682	N/A
Youth committed to a juvenile residential facility		23	3
Youth sentenced to adult prison		0	0
Youth who received some other sentence		20	3
Youth under some form of punishment	**Total**	**43/682**	**6**
Performance Measure		Youth	Percent
Youth who exited program 6–12 months prior to the end of the reporting period (long-term outcome)		460	N/A
Youth who exited program 6–12 months prior to the end of the reporting period and were committed to a juvenile residential facility		17	4
Youth who exited program 6–12 months prior to the end of the reporting period and were sentenced to adult prison		0	0
Youth who exited program 6–12 months prior to the end of the reporting period and received some other sentence		23	5
Youth under some form of punishment	**Total**	**40/460**	**9**

As shown in Table 8, of the 692 program youth who were tracked for adjudications during the reporting period, 29 (4 percent) were committed to a juvenile residential facility, 5 were sentenced to adult prison, and 37 were given some other sentence during the reporting period.

Long-term recidivism data showed that 54 youth had exited the program 6 to 12 months ago and were tracked for new adjudications during the reporting period. Of those, 14 (26 percent) were recommitted to a juvenile residential facility, 1 was sentenced to adult prison, and 20 were given some other sentence.

Table 8. Recidivism Measures for Program Youth Tracked: July–December 2014

| Performance Measure		Youth	Percent
Youth tracked for adjudications (short-term outcome)		692	N/A
Youth committed to a juvenile residential facility		29	4
Youth sentenced to adult prison		5	1
Youth given some other sentence		37	5
Youth under some form of punishment	**Total**	**71/692**	**10**
Performance Measure		**Youth**	**Percent**
Youth who exited program 6–12 months ago and were tracked for new adjudications (long-term outcome)		54	N/A
Youth who exited the program 6–12 months ago and were recommitted to a juvenile residential facility		14	26
Youth who exited program 6–12 months ago and were sentenced to adult prison		1	2
Youth who exited program 6–12 months ago and were given some other sentence		20	37
Youth under some form of punishment	**Total**	**35/54**	**65**

A more comprehensive comparison of short-term recidivism rates by reporting period is shown in Figure 3. Data from the initial reporting period, July–December 2009, are not included, because OJJDP began tracking technical violations and actual new adjudications separately during the January–June 2010 reporting period. In addition, there was a spike in the recidivism rate for the July–December 2010 reporting period, when grantees began offering both pre- and post-release services and finding new ways to implement their programs to reach a wider range of youth.

Figure 3. Short-Term Recidivism Rates among Program Youth by Reporting Period: January 2010–December 2014
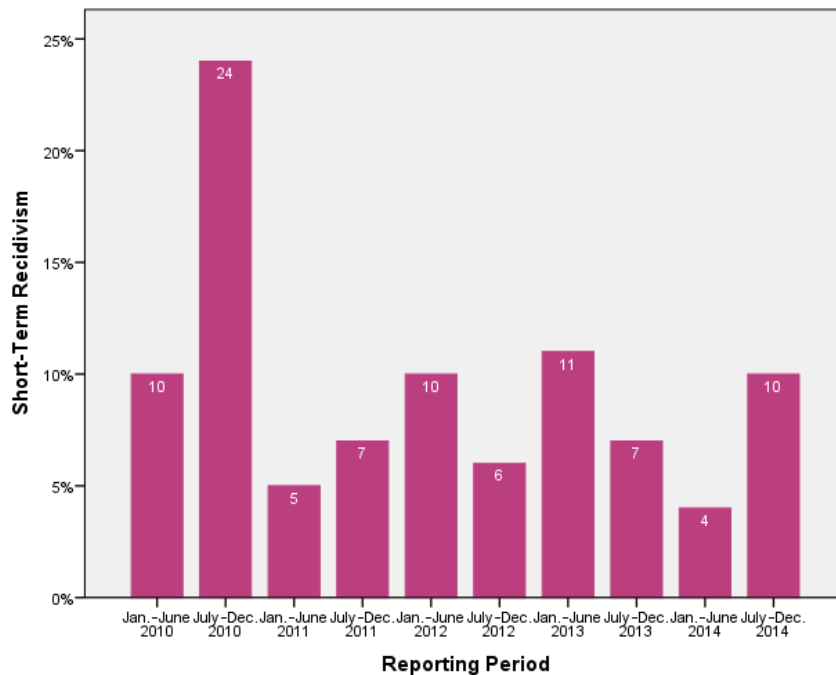
Likewise, Figure 4 shows a comparison of the long-term recidivism rates by reporting period. It is important to keep in mind that, during the first few reporting periods, long-term data for these programs were sparse. The majority of SCA grantees did not have access to these data. In addition, the long-term recidivism rate for July–December 2014 is based on data reported by two grantees. The percentages should therefore be interpreted with caution.

Figure 4. Long-Term Recidivism Rates among Program Youth by Reporting Period: January 2010–December 2014
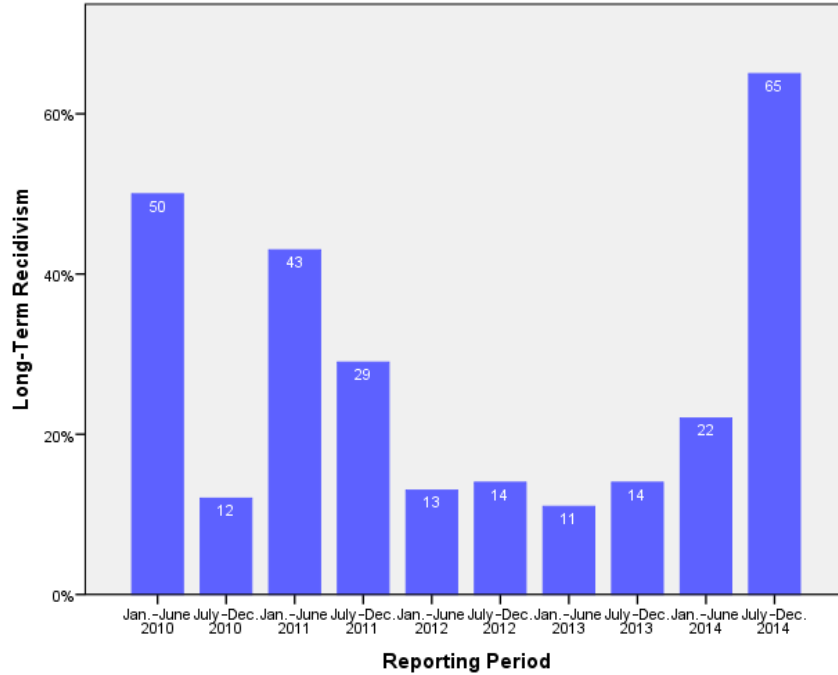
Grantees provided youth with substance-use counseling and mental-health and housing services (Figure 5). Of the 114 youth identified as needing substance-use counseling, 91 youth (80 percent) actually received this service. In addition, 68 eligible youth received mental-health services, and 28 youth successfully found housing. The number of youth assessed as needing services compared with the actual enrollment in the provided services could differ within the reporting cycle. Youth may have been assessed in a prior reporting period, and actual enrollment could be delayed into a future reporting period. In addition, SCA Juvenile Mentoring programs also accept referrals for participants who have been assessed from another agency. These two factors contribute to the variation in the number of participants assessed as needing various services compared with the number enrolled.

Figure 5. Program Youth Needing Services versus Enrolled, by Type of Service: July–December 2014
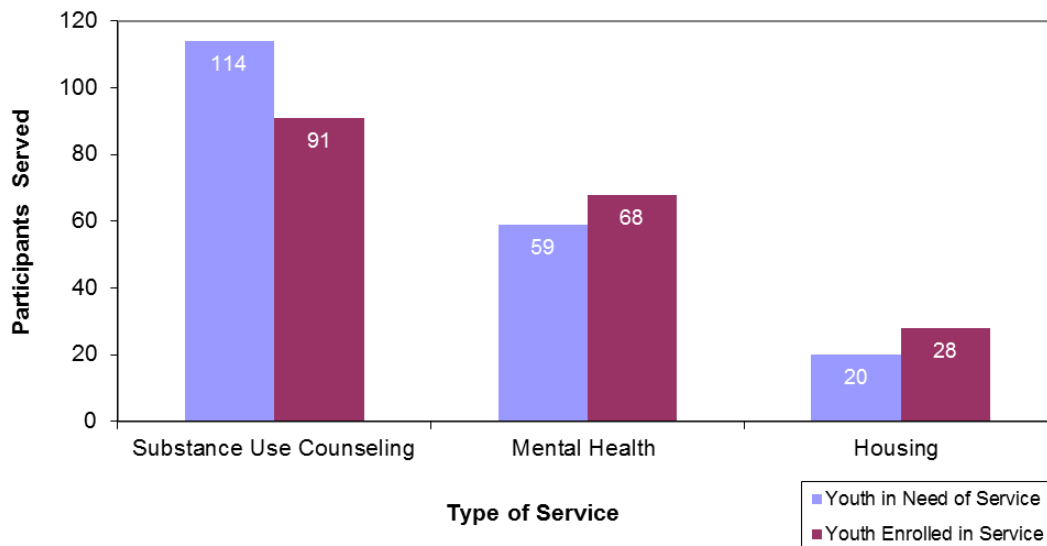
Table 9 presents program data on youth whose selected target behaviors improved in the short term. Participating youth showed the most improvement in a target behavior change for social competence (88 percent) and perception of social support (85 percent).

Table 9. Change in Short-Term Target Behaviors among Program Youth: July–December 2014

Target Behavior	Youth Served	Youth with Intended Behavior Change	Percentage of Youth with Intended Behavior Change
Social Competence	371	327	88
School Attendance	475	282	59
Grade Point Average	76	61	80
Perception of Social Support	282	241	85
Family Relationships	345	288	83
Antisocial Behavior	338	261	77
Substance Use	26	14	54
Total	**1,913**	**1,474**	**77%**

Table 10 lists long-term percentages for the specified target behavior. Long-term outcomes are measured 6–12 months after a youth leaves or completes the program. Overall, 81 percent of program youth had a positive change in behavior 6–12 months post-program.

Table 10. Change in Long-Term Target Behaviors among Program Youth: July–December 2014

Target Behavior	Youth Served	Youth with Intended Behavior Change	Percentage of Youth with Intended Behavior Change
Social Competence	108	95	88
School Attendance	76	62	82
Grade Point Average	91	76	84
GED Test Passed	26	26	100
Perception of Social Support	15	10	67
Family Relationships	150	132	88
Antisocial Behavior	160	107	67
Substance Use	21	18	86
Total	**647**	**526**	**81%**

Figures 6 and 7 report the percentage of youth who exhibited an overall desired change in behavior from July 2009 to December 2014. Please note that during the first few reporting periods, long-term data for these programs were sparse. The majority of SCA grantees did not have access to these data. The percentages should therefore be interpreted with caution.

Figure 6. Short-Term Behavior Change Rates among Program Youth: July 2009–December 2014
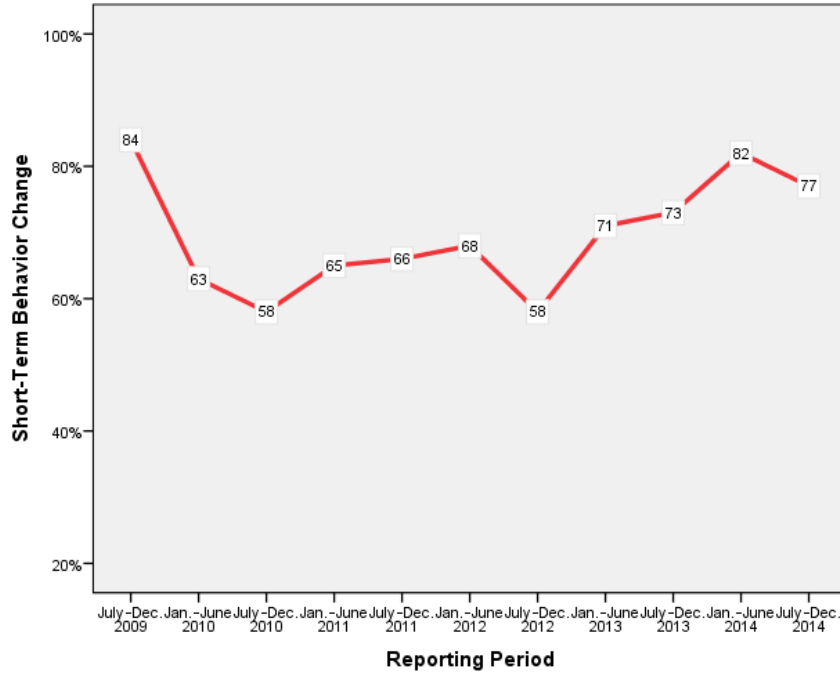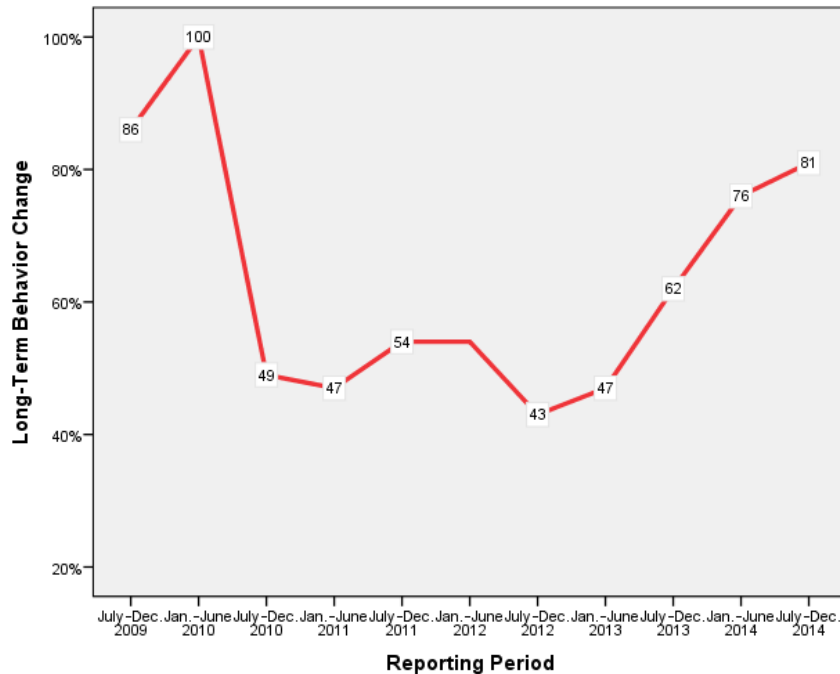

Figure 7. Long-Term Behavior Change Rates among Program Youth: July 2009–December 2014

Summary

Overall, 100 percent of SCA Juvenile Mentoring Initiative grantees reported performance measures data this reporting period. Highlights for program youth include a short-term technical violations rate of 6 percent and a short-term recidivism rate of 10 percent. In the short term, participating youth showed the most improvement in a target behavior change for social competence (88 percent) and perception of social support (85 percent).