

## Overview of the DCTAT Data for Formula Grants

This memo provides an overview of the Data Collection and Technical Assistance Tool (DCTAT) data for Formula Grants program grantees as collected October 1, 2013–September 30, 2014.<sup>1</sup>

The Formula Grants Program supports state and local delinquency prevention and intervention efforts and juvenile justice system improvements. Through this program, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) provides funds directly to states, U.S. territories, and the District of Columbia to help them implement comprehensive state juvenile justice plans based on detailed studies of needs in their jurisdictions. The Formula Grants Program is authorized under the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act of 2002 (42 U.S.C. 5601 et seq.).

### 1. Examination of Program Information

#### 1.1 Trend Analysis of Formula Data for All Reporting Periods

For the most recent period, October 2013–September 2014, 59 grants were active, 196 total awards were granted, grantees completed reporting for 179 awards, 7 were in progress, and 10 were not started. Data entry was completed by 57 grantees, for a compliance rate of 97 percent (Table 1). Whereas some grantees spent their funds directly, others subawarded their funds to other agencies. As a result, data were reported for 758 subgrant awards. The numbers reported in Table 1 do not include subrecipients, but subrecipients are included in the rest of the tables and figures.

**Table 1. Status of Grantee Reporting by Period**

Data Reporting Period	Status			
	Not Started	In Progress	Complete	Total
Oct. 2008–Sept. 2009	0	2	54	56
Oct. 2009–Sept. 2010	0	1	55	56
Oct. 2010–Sept. 2011	0	2	54	56
Oct. 2011–Sept. 2012	1	0	55	56
Oct. 2012–Sept. 2013	1	0	55	56
Oct. 2013–Sept. 2014	2	0	57	59
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>330</b>	<b>339</b>

The Formula Grants Program consists of 35 program areas. Although the program areas may overlap in category, for the purposes of this data memo, they have been condensed into three larger categories: (1) Prevention Programs, (2) Intervention Programs, and (3) System Improvement. Table 2 presents a breakdown of the program areas by their respective categories.

<sup>1</sup> The data reported to OJJDP have undergone system-level validation and verification checks. In addition, OJJDP reviews the aggregate data findings and grantee-level data reports for obvious errors or inconsistencies. A formalized data validation and verification plan was piloted for 12 Formula Grant funded programs in 2014.

**Table 2. Purpose Areas Organized by Categories of Services**

Prevention Programs	Intervention Programs	System Improvement
Child Abuse and Neglect	Aftercare/Reentry	Community Assessment
Children of Incarcerated Parents	Alternatives to Detention	Compliance Monitoring (State Level)
Delinquency Prevention	Court Services	Juvenile Justice System Improvement
Disproportionate Minority Contact (State and Subgrantee Level)	Deinstitutionalization of Status Offenders (State and Subgrantee Level)	State Advisory Group (SAG) Allocation
Gangs	Diversion	Youth Courts
Job Training	Gender-Specific Services	Strategic Community Action Planning (SCAP)
Mentoring	Graduated Sanctions	
Native American Programs	Gun Programs	
Rural Area Juvenile Programs	Hate Crimes	
School Programs	Jail Removal (State and Subgrantee Level)	
Youth Advocacy	Mental Health Services	
	Probation	
	Restitution/Community Service	
	Separation of Juveniles from Adult Inmates (State and Subgrantee Level)	
	Serious Crime	
	Sex Offender Programs	
	Substance Abuse	

Over the five reporting periods, the numbers of grantees reporting data for the different program areas have varied. During the October 2013–September 2014 reporting period, the largest number of grantees provided data under the Prevention Programs subcategory, followed by Intervention Programs and System Improvement. However, the number of grantees reporting data has steadily decreased since the earliest reporting period for all program areas falling under these categories (Figure 1).

**Figure 1. Awards by Program Area across Reporting Periods**

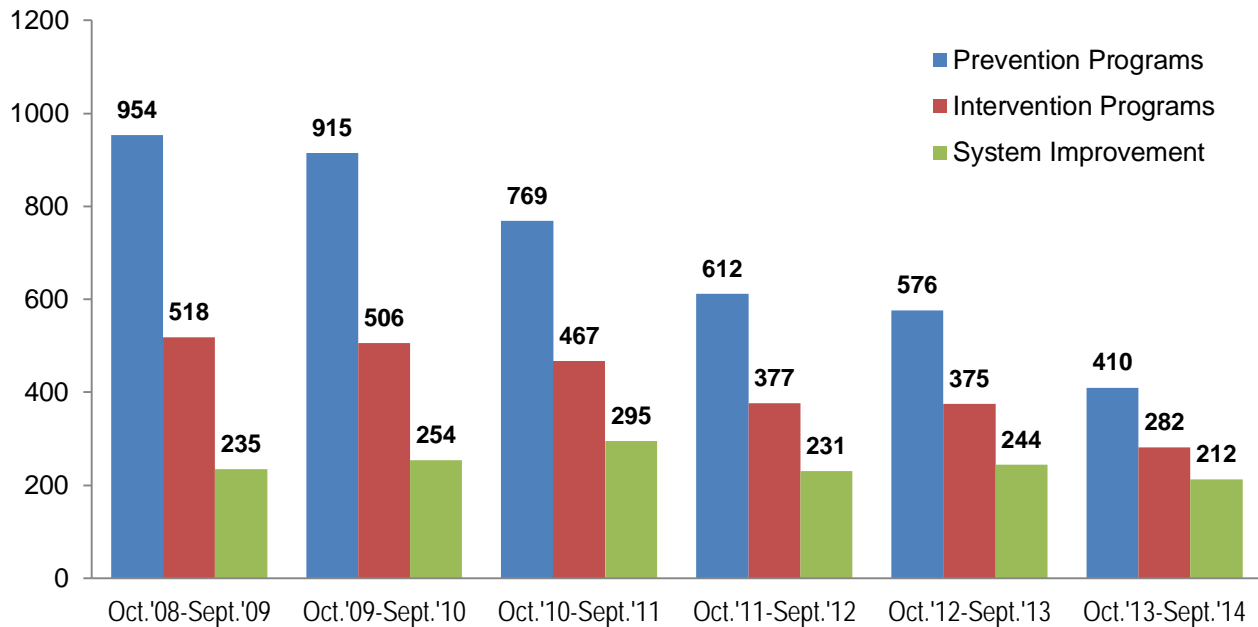
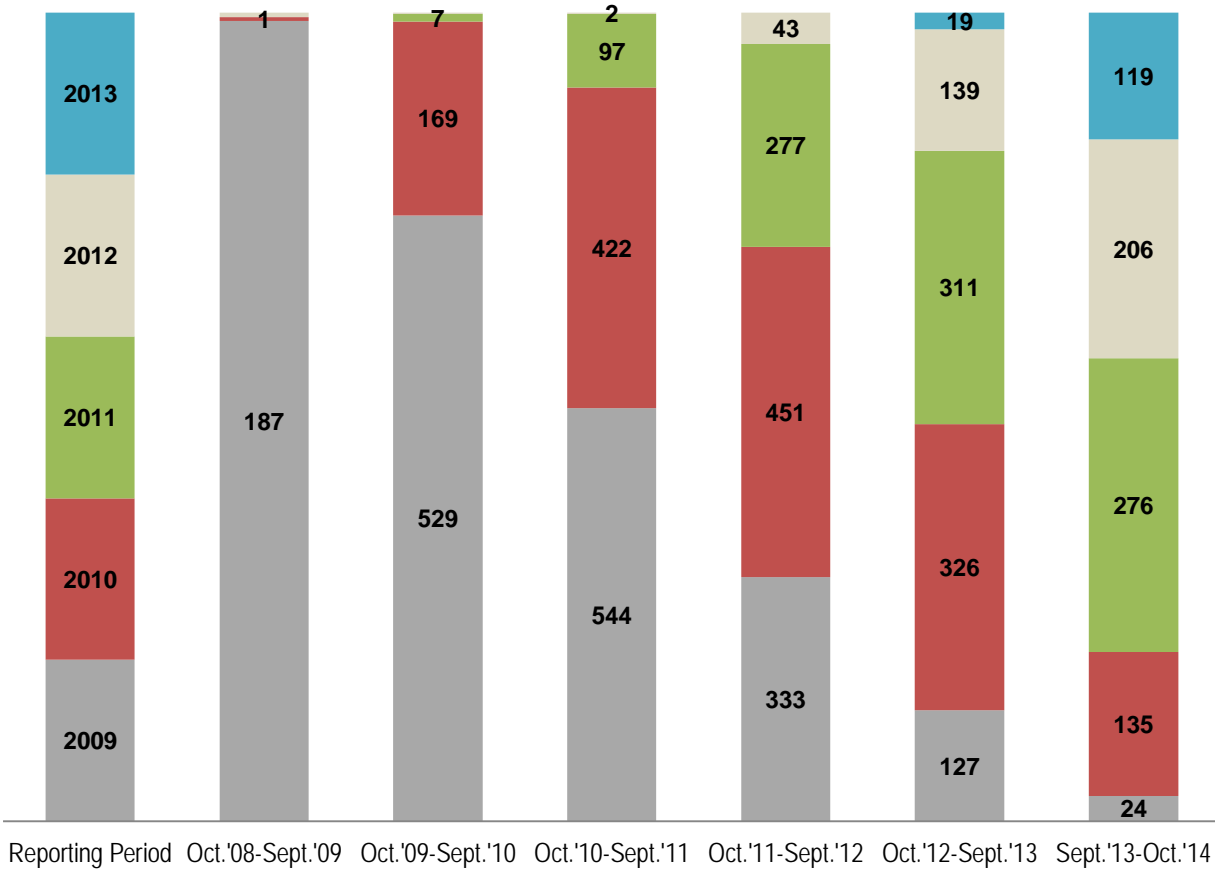


Figure 2 depicts the number of subgrants by federal fiscal year (FFY). During October 2013–September 2014, the most subgrants were made from FFY 2011 funding. In the most current reporting period, 119 subgrants were awarded from FFY 2013 funding. Overall, across the past five reporting periods, there has been a steady decline in the amount of Formula subgrants. Table 3 shows the total award amount by FFY. During October 2013–September 2014, the largest amount of grant funding for Formula, \$17,976,941, came from FFY 2011. Grantees use grant funds to implement several prevention and intervention juvenile justice programs.

**Figure 2. Number of Subgrants by Federal Fiscal Year 2009-2013**



**Table 3. Total Award Amount by Federal Fiscal Year (Dollars)**

FFY	Data Collection Period					
	Oct. '08– Sept. '09	Oct. '09– Sept. '10	Oct. '10– Sept. '11	Oct. '11– Sept. '12	Oct. '12– Sept. '13	Oct. '13– Sept. '14
2004	\$ 990,000	\$ 990,000	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
2005	12,408,631	1,297,631	0	0	0	0
2006	38,824,310	18,803,000	0	0	0	0
2007	51,510,225	40,124,301	8,503,844	1,692,000	0	0
2008	\$39,236,339	42,207,629	38,278,669	17,781,869	10,400,830	0
2009	14,741,000	42,089,408	47,740,208	40,466,288	36,333,848	2,583,821
2010	2,056,000	15,948,000	38,230,862	44,157,862	52,798,862	12,622,762
2011	0	4,460,374	10,231,741	23,843,807	49,540,174	17,976,941
2012	582,255	582,255	1,373,204	2,093,204	28,166,825	12,706,666
2013	0	0	0	0	28,831,498	5,349,432

## 1.2 Demographic Data for Program Participants, October 2013–September 2014

Table 4 presents an aggregate of demographic data for the reporting period and the number of Formula grantees that serve each population. Targeted services include any approaches specifically designed to meet the needs of the population (e.g., gender-specific, culturally based, developmentally appropriate services).

**Table 4. Target Population, October 2013–September 2014**

Population	Grantees Serving Group During Project Period
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	
American Indian/Alaska Native	245
Asian	229
Black/African American	459
Hispanic or Latino (of Any Race)	421
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	106
Other Race	246
White/Caucasian	381
Caucasian/Non-Latino	240
Youth Population Not Served Directly	201
<b>Justice System Status</b>	
At-Risk Population (No Prior Offense)	406
First-Time Offenders	346
Repeat Offenders	260
Sex Offenders	75
Status Offenders	175
Violent Offenders	110
Youth Population Not Served Directly	202
<b>Gender</b>	
Male	524
Female	530
Youth Population Not Served Directly	201
<b>Age</b>	
0–10	199
11–18	539
Over 18	107
Youth Population Not Served Directly	201
<b>Geographic Area</b>	
Rural	300
Suburban	231
Tribal	81
Urban	322
Youth Population Not Served Directly	197
<b>Other</b>	
Mental Health	181
Substance Abuse	196
Truant/Dropout	222

## 2. Analysis of Core Measure Data, October 2013–September 2014

### 2.1 Analysis of Target Behaviors

Targeted behaviors measure a positive change in behavior among program participants. Ideally, data are collected on the number of youth who demonstrate a positive change for a targeted behavior in each reporting period. Tables 5 and 6 show a list of measures for which grantees were required to evaluate performance and track data for certain target behaviors in each program category. The tables list both short-term (Table 5) and long-term (Table 6) percentages for the specified target behavior for all program categories. In all, 173,340 youth participants were served in various programs funded by Formula Grants. Of that number, approximately 26 percent completed the defined program requirements successfully.

Table 5 shows that 86 percent of program youth exhibited a desired change in the targeted behavior in the short term.

**Table 5. Short-Term Performance Measures Data, October 2013–September 2014**

Target Behavior	Youth Receiving Services for Target Behavior	Youth with Noted Behavioral Change	Percent of Youth with Noted Behavioral Change
Antisocial Behavior	23,298	20,382	87
School Attendance	22,806	19,683	86
Family Relationships	1,949	1,566	80
Substance Use	3,046	2,362	78
Social Competence	251	232	92
Self Esteem	69	66	96
Perception of Social Support	45	45	100
Body Image	25	25	100
Employment Status	54	35	65
<b>Total</b>	<b>51,543</b>	<b>44,396</b>	<b>86</b>

Table 6 lists the percentages for the long-term outcomes of the specified target behaviors for all program categories. Long-term outcomes are the ultimate outcomes sought for participants, recipients, the juvenile justice system, or the community. They are measured within 6–12 months after youth leave or complete the program. Overall, 88 percent of program youth had a desired change in the targeted behavior.

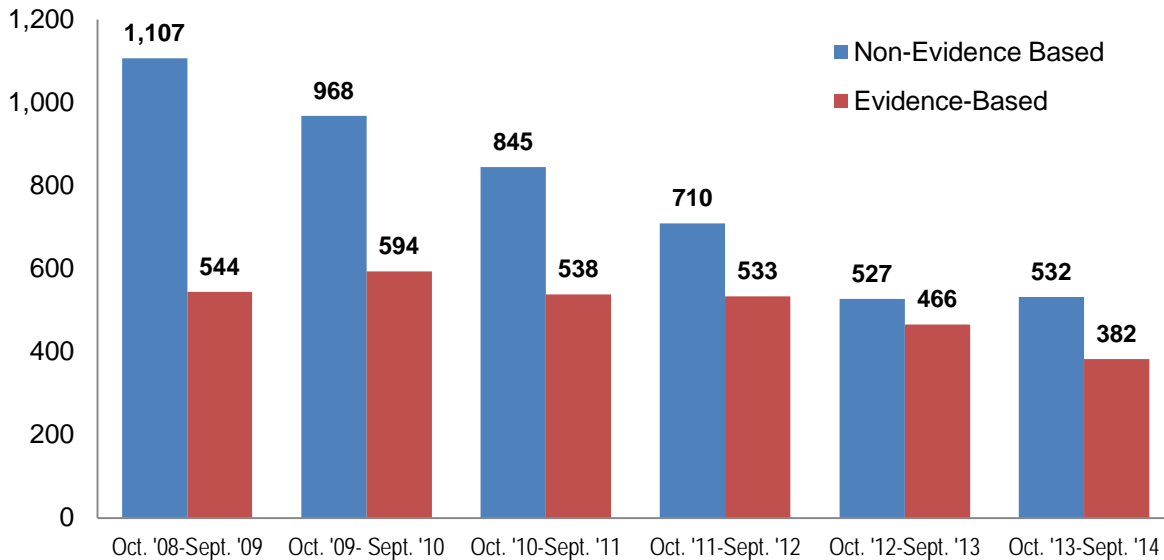
**Table 6. Long-Term Performance Measures Data, October 2013–September 2014**

Target Behavior	Youth Receiving Services for Target Behavior Who Exited 6–12 Months Ago	Youth with Noted Behavioral Change	Percent of Youth with Noted Behavioral Change
Antisocial Behavior	17,721	15,399	87
School Attendance	10,624	9,645	91
Family Relationships	692	634	92
Substance Use	903	794	88
Social Competence	752	681	91
Self Esteem	25	25	100
Body Image	25	25	100
<b>Total</b>	<b>30,742</b>	<b>27,203</b>	<b>88</b>

## 2.2 Analysis of Evidence-Based Programs and/or Practices

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. A significant number of programs funded through Formula Grants are implementing evidence-based programs and/or practices (Figure 3). In October 2013–September 2014, 42 percent of grantees and subgrantees ( $n = 382$ ) implemented evidence-based programs and/or practices.

**Figure 3. Programs Implementing Evidence-Based Programs and/or Practices**  
(Cumulative Total of Evidence-Based Programs/Practices  $N = 3,057$ )



## 2.3 Analysis of the Recidivism Measure

Included in the core measures are those that gauge reoffending outcomes for youth served by the program. The term reoffending (or recidivism) refers to a subsequent new offense. Youth who reoffend are already in the system and are adjudicated for a new delinquent offense. These youth are typically served in intervention programs that have a goal of preventing subsequent offenses.

Recidivism levels among the youth served while in the program (short-term data) were relatively low: 9 percent of youth tracked reoffended while in the program. A number of youth who exited the program were tracked for reoffenses 6 months after their exit ( $N = 3,113$ ). Of those tracked, 399 committed a new offense. Short-term juvenile reoffending rates are shown in Table 7, and long-term reoffending rates are in Table 8.

**Table 7. Short-Term Reoffending Data, October 2013–September 2014**

Performance Measure	Data
Number of program youth tracked	11,321
Program youth with new arrest or delinquent offense	974
Number of program youth who were recommitted to juvenile facility	371
Number of program youth sentenced to adult prison	30
Number of youth who received another sentence	443
Percent of program youth who reoffend (recidivism)	974/11,321 (9%)

**Table 8. Long-Term Reoffending Data for Youth Exiting Programs 6–12 Months Earlier, October 2013–September 2014**

Performance Measure	Data
Number of program youth who exited the program 6–12 months ago that were tracked	3,113
Of those tracked, the number of program youth who had a new arrest or delinquent offense	399
Number of program youth who were recommitted to a juvenile facility	148
Number of program youth who were sentenced to adult prison	1
Number of youth who received another sentence	161
Percent of program youth who reoffend (recidivism)	399/3,113 <b>(13%)</b>

### 3. Narrative Response Data

#### *3.1 Grant-Related Accomplishments: October 2013–September 2014*

Grantees were asked to answer seven questions about their overall accomplishments and what barriers they had encountered during the reporting period. The narrative responses present a story to go with the numeric data that each grantee reported. States reported accomplishments in areas such as staff training in juvenile facilities, educational enhancements, and reduction of disproportionate minority contact (DMC) within the juvenile justice system. Other accomplishments included significant reductions in juvenile delinquency through the implementation of various prevention programs.

For example, Florida received more than \$1 million in Federal dollars that the state expended to support state and local efforts on delinquency prevention, intervention efforts, and juvenile justice system improvements. Florida’s DMC efforts were mainly focused on system improvement. To this end, the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice awarded federal dollars to create a DMC curriculum to train law enforcement on de-escalation techniques, cultural competence, and enhancing the relationship between officers and youth. Another initiative included DMC core staff attending Georgetown University to take part in the Reducing Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Juvenile Justice Certificate program.

In New York, probation officers in Monroe County’s Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) continued to provide 24-hour screening using the Detention Risk Assessment Instrument (DRAI) for all juvenile arrests made after hours where detention was being considered. The DRAI, Massachusetts Youth Screening Instrument, and Youth Assessment & Screening Instrument were used to match response to risk for all youth arrested in Monroe County. In Rochester, the Enhanced Senior Probation Officer and the Enhanced Probation Officer continued to collaborate with the city police department to explore methods to increase pre-intake/restorative justice efforts, train staff, and provide services that matched the assessed risks and needs of youth.

#### *3.2 Problems and Barriers Encountered: October 2013–September 2014*

Although the grantees had many accomplishments in this reporting period, many also acknowledged several barriers that prevented them from achieving program goals.

A New York State grantee described how the subgranting process caused late contract approvals, which led to the accumulation of large balances of unspent funds by some subgrantees. New York DCJS staff had to decide how to re-allocate the funds prior to the lapse date. This presented a challenge because staff had to keep in mind the goals of the program, funding splits, and lapse dates, all while ensuring program fidelity. Unfortunately, by the time the reporting period ended, some grantees had not reached all their goals and objectives.

Wisconsin stated that its juvenile justice team was staffed by only two people; it was challenging for one person to fill the role of the DMC coordinator, juvenile justice specialist, and compliance monitor from January 2014 through May 2014. Unfortunately, the DMC work was neglected due to the demands of compliance monitoring during the reporting period.

Another barrier prevalent among several states was related to the lack of funding. Some states attributed their challenges to the decrease in funding, and others attributed challenges in program implementation due to the delay in subgrantee funding. West Virginia reported that the decrease in amount of funding did not allow for project expansion, and the delay in funding resulted in subgrantees being unable to report on designated areas.

Data management continued to be a problem for some states; for example, in Maryland, there were multiple data sources and systems used for the overall analysis of DMC, which created a barrier. Obtaining law enforcement data was a problem because the agencies did not have a standardized data reporting system that included racial and ethnic categories.

### *3.3 Requested OJJDP Assistance: October 2013–September 2014*

Some states requested technical assistance support for compliance monitoring, new SAG member training, youth SAG training, DMC training, and capacity building. One state expressed the need for technical assistance for juvenile justice specialists, and another state requested technical assistance for adhering to Prison Rape Elimination Act requirements and DMC.