Overview of the DCTAT Data for Violence Prevention Program Grantees: July–December 2016

The Violence Prevention Program, administered by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), is intended to promote the well-being and healthy development of children, youth, and families; prevent and reduce violence and victimization; and improve community capacity to address all forms of violence and the impact of trauma. Strong evidence indicates that, by working in partnership, stakeholders in communities can intervene effectively in the lives of young people to reduce or prevent their experiences with and involvement in violence. Among other factors, success requires approaches to violence prevention, intervention, and treatment that account for child and adolescent development and the impact of adverse consequences of trauma to their social and emotional development. Through its signature youth violence prevention initiatives (existing localities implementing the National Forum on Youth Violence Prevention, Community-Based Violence Prevention, and the Defending Childhood Initiative), OJJDP has created cross-sector, multilevel, community-based collaborations that engage a broad spectrum of local leaders, educators, youth-serving practitioners, decision makers, agency heads from various public systems, and families and youth. The ultimate aim of this work is to promote the well-being of children and youth and the families and communities in which they live and to enhance public safety through violence prevention and reduction.

Report Highlights

This performance report is an overview of the Data Collection and Technical Assistance Tool (DCTAT) data for Violence Prevention program grantees as reported through December 31, 2016.

The following highlights all refer to the July–December 2016 reporting period.

- There were 45 active Violence Prevention program grantees, with a 91-percent reporting compliance rate.
- Grantees selected the system improvement program area most often, followed by the direct service intervention and direct service prevention program areas.
- Eighty-two percent of Federal awards used some form of evidence-based program or practice.
- Oregon received the most Federal funds, followed by California and Montana.
- Units of local government run the majority of the Violence Prevention programs, encompassing 56 percent overall ($n = 25$).
- Eighty percent of operational grantees answered the mandatory project questions.
- Overall, 21 percent of youth exhibited a desired change in the targeted behavior measured in the short term.
- Twenty-two MOUs (Memorandum of Understanding) were developed.

1. Examination of Program Information

Violence Prevention program grantees began reporting in the DCTAT in 2016. When grantees began reporting data for the July–December 2015 reporting period, they were encouraged to report retroactive data for the July–December 2014 and the January–June 2015 reporting periods; however, reporting for these two reporting periods was not mandatory. Table 1 presents the reporting compliance rate of Federal awards for each reporting period. During the July–December 2016 reporting period, grantees completed the DCTAT reporting requirements for 41 Federal awards, for a reporting compliance rate of 91 percent.

Table 1. Status of Federal Awards Reporting by Reporting Period: July 2014–December 2016

Data Reporting Period	Status				
	Not Started	In Progress	Complete	Total	Percentage
July–December 2014	33	0	5	38	13%
January–June 2015	31	0	7	38	18
July–December 2015	7	1	41	49	84
January–June 2016	8	0	40	48	83
July–December 2016	3	1	41	45	91
Total	**82**	**2**	**134**	**218**	**61%**

Figure 1 shows the total number of active grantees by state ($N = 45$). California had the most grantees.

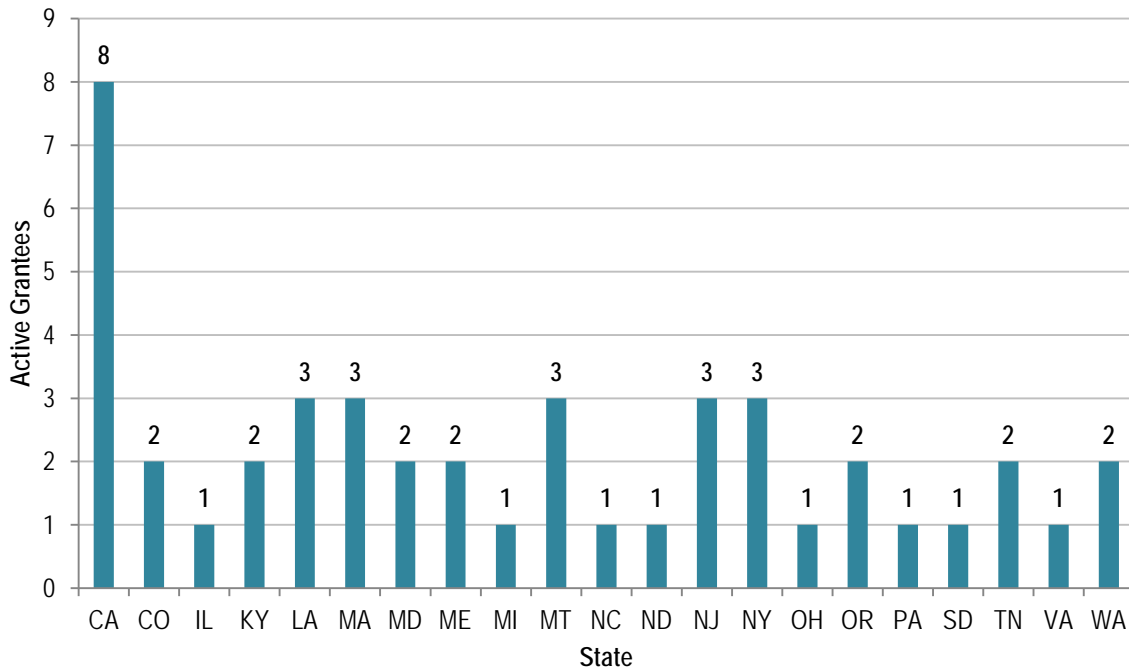**Figure 1. Number of Active Grantees by State: July–December 2016**

Table 2 presents aggregate demographic data for the January 2015–December 2016 reporting periods and the number of grantees expected to serve each population per Federal grant.[1] 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).

Grantees only have to report target population information once in the DCTAT but may update their target population to best fit their program during the life of the award. Because of the nature of the reporting requirement, the target population number is steady throughout each reporting period. The slight variation in numbers between each reporting period is caused by the number of active or inactive Federal awards, or by additional services that grantees may have added to their programs.

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[1] Grantees, or the recipient organizations, can have multiple Federal awards, and each award is required to report on the expected demographic served.

Table 2. Target Population Served: January 2015–December 2016

| Population	Number of Grantees Serving Group During Reporting Period			
	January–June 2015	July–December 2015	January–June 2016	July-December 2016
Race/Ethnicity				
American Indian/Alaska Native	8	8	10	11
Asian	9	9	11	11
Black/African American	23	23	30	28
Hispanic or Latino (of Any Race)	16	16	24	21
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	3	3	4	6
Other Race	11	11	13	14
White/Caucasian/Non-Latino	14	14	19	22
Youth Population Not Served Directly	5	8	10	13
Justice System Status				
At-Risk Population (No Prior Offense)	18	19	24	25
First-Time Offenders	15	17	20	24
Repeat Offenders	15	16	18	21
Sex Offenders	1	1	1	2
Status Offenders	8	8	10	12
Violent Offenders	8	8	13	19
Youth Population Not Served Directly	8	13	12	15
Gender				
Male	22	27	33	33
Female	25	24	30	29
Youth Population Not Served Directly	5	10	9	12
Age				
0–10	13	14	15	16
11–18	21	23	28	30
Older than 18	19	21	25	25
Youth Population Not Served Directly	5	10	11	12
Geographic Area				
Rural	2	3	4	5
Suburban	4	4	5	8
Tribal	2	3	3	3
Urban	22	23	30	28
Youth Population Not Served Directly	5	10	9	12
Other				
Mental Health	16	20	26	27
Substance Abuse	12	13	16	20
Truant/Dropout	14	15	18	18

Table 3 presents the frequency of program area selections for operational Federal awards (July 2014–December 2016). During the July–December 2016 reporting period, grantees selected the system improvement program area most often, followed by the direct service intervention and direct service prevention program areas.

Table 3. Frequency of Program Area Selections: July 2014–December 2016

Reporting Period	Direct Service Prevention	Direct Service Intervention	System Improvement
July–December 2014	3	3	4
January–June 2015	4	4	5
July–December 2015	16	21	21
January–June 2016	19	23	26
July–December 2016	24	25	29
Total	**66**	**76**	**85**

Figure 2 illustrates the number and percentage of Federal awards that made one or more program area selections during the July–December 2016 reporting period. The majority (56 percent) selected only one program area.

Figure 2. Number and Percentage of Operational Awards with One or More Program Area Selections: July–December 2016
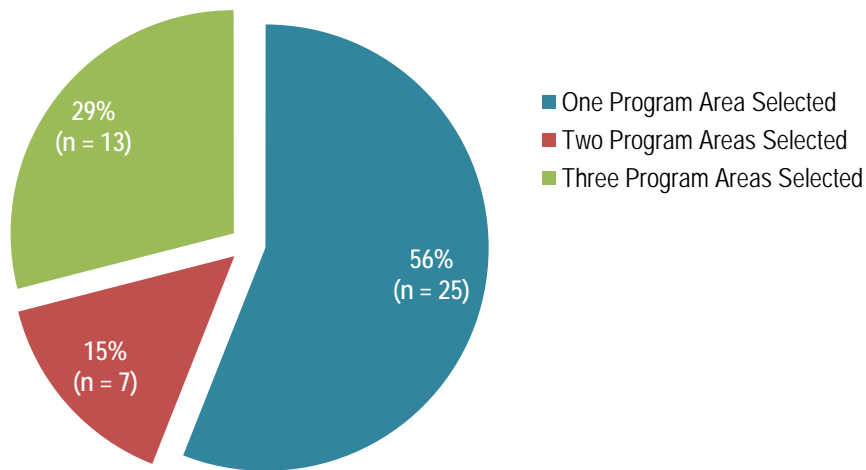
1.1 Evidence-Based Programming and Funding Information

OJJDP encourages grantees to use evidence-based practices in their 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 grantees are prioritizing evidence-based programs, grantees are asked to report whether or not their programs are evidence based. During the July–December 2016 reporting period, 82 percent of the Federal awards used Federal funds to implement an evidence-based program or practice (Figure 3).[2]

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[2] Grantees are asked, "Is the Federal award used to implement an evidence-based program or practice?" This question is only reported once in the DCTAT, and it is reflective of the grant program for the life of the award.

Figure 3. Federal Funding for Evidence-Based Programs and/or Practices: July–December 2016

- Evidence Based ($13,575,969)
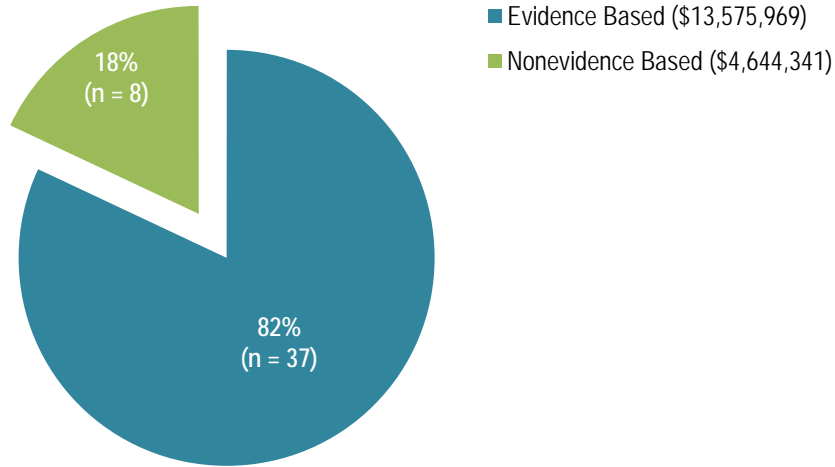- Nonevidence Based ($4,644,341)

82%
(n = 37)

18%
(n = 8)

Table 4 further examines the number of programs or initiatives employing evidence-based practices by all active grantees during the reporting period. There were 45 operational programs, and 82 percent of the programs used some form of evidence-based program or practice.

Table 4. Percentage of Operational Evidence-Based Programs or Practices: July 2015–December 2016

Reporting Period	Total Number of Programs or Initiatives	Number of Program/Initiatives Employing Evidence-Based Programs or Practices	Percentage Employing Evidence-Based Programs
July–December 2015	33	23	70%
January–June 2016	38	31	82
July–December 2016	45	37	82
Total	**116**	**91**	**78%**

An examination of Federal award amounts by State or district shows that Oregon received the most funds, followed by California and Montana. Table 5 displays a comprehensive comparison of State award amounts. The amounts in the table represent the total funding each State received from OJJDP for the life of the award(s).

Table 5. Total Federal Award Amount by State (Dollars): July–December 2016

Grantee State	N	Grant Amount (Dollars)	Grantee State	N	Grant Amount (Dollars)
CA	8	$ 2,361,259	ND	1	$ 612,620
CO	2	286,987	NJ	3	445,302
IL	1	1,000,000	NY	3	640,000
KY	2	436,534	OH	1	612,260
LA	3	475,471	OR	2	2,722,261
MA	3	934,322	PA	1	682,000
MD	2	368,000	SD	1	300,000
ME	2	1,112,260	TN	2	834,460
MI	1	1,570,000	VA	1	70,000
MT	3	1,840,277	WA	2	588,832
NC	1	327,825			

1.2 Implementing Organization Type

As shown in Figure 4, analysis of implementing organizations revealed that units of local government constituted the majority of Violence Prevention programs (56 percent; *n* = 25).

Figure 4. Implementing Organizations by Type and Number of Awards: July–December 2016
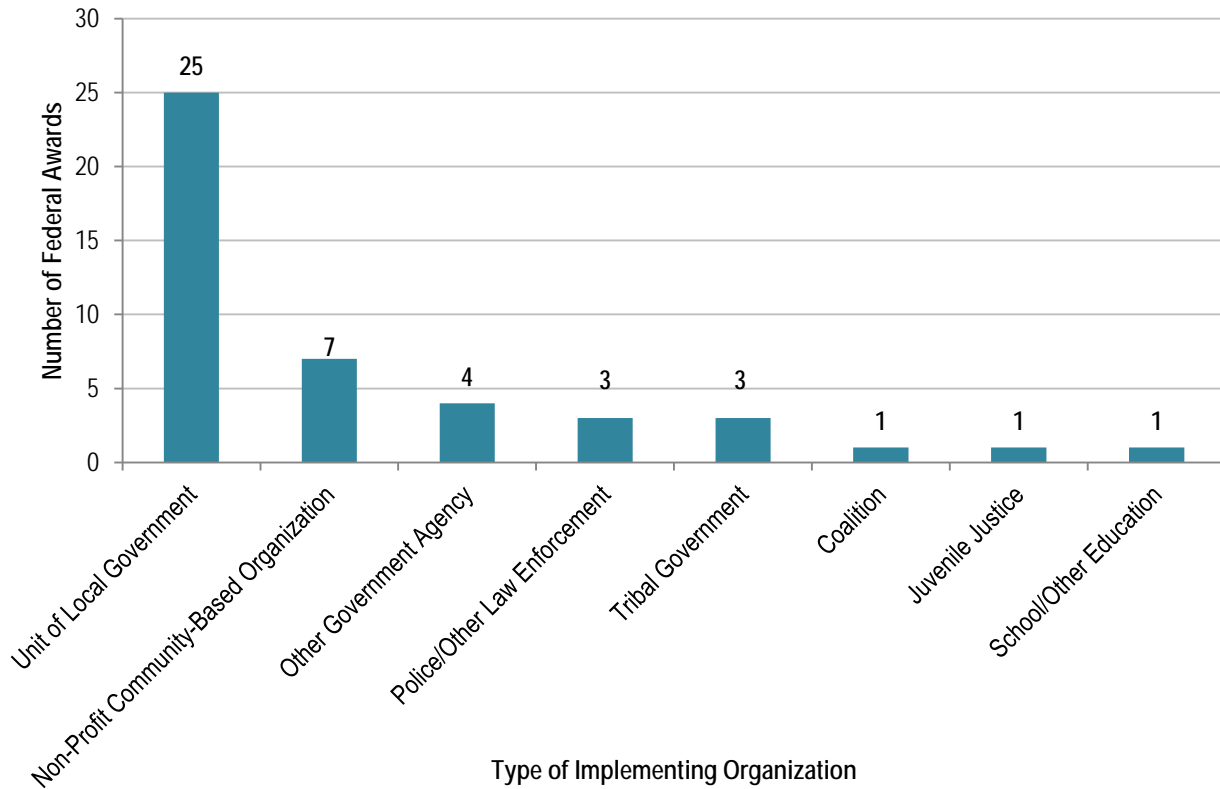
2. Analysis of Program Measures

2.1 Analysis of Target Behaviors: July–December 2016

This section presents an analysis of the data collected on the core indicators by program category. Grantees were required to measure performance and track data for certain target behaviors for programs using grant funds to provide direct services to youth. Data are collected on the number of youth who demonstrate a positive change in a targeted behavior during the reporting period. Table 6 lists short-term outcome percentages for the specified target behaviors. Target behaviors that did not have any reported data were excluded from the analysis. Twenty-one percent exhibited a desired change in the targeted behavior measured in the short term. Due to the nature of the programs enacted by the grantees, it is difficult (if not impossible) to maintain contact with all youth served over long periods of time (i.e., 6–12 months following departure from the program). Therefore, long-term performance data on target behaviors are not included.

Table 6. Short-Term Performance Data on Target Behaviors: July–December 2016

Target Behavior	Youth with Noted Behavioral Change	Youth Receiving Services for Target Behavior	Percentage of Youth with Noted Behavioral Change
Antisocial Behavior	253	889	28%
Change in Knowledge[3]	131	1115	12
Community Involvement	154	739	21
Employment Status	178	356	50
Family Relationships	163	350	47
Gang Resistance/Involvement[4]	234	1665	14
Gun-related Behavior Change	33	74	45
Job Skills	196	348	56
School Attendance[5]	269	2899	9
Social Competence	167	203	82
Total	**1,778**	**8,638**	**21%**

2.2 Analysis of the Recidivism Measure: July–December 2016

Included in the core measures are those that gauge reoffending outcomes for youth served by the program. The term recidivism (or reoffending) 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: 3 percent of the youth who were tracked reoffended while in the program. A number of youth who exited the program 6–12 months earlier were tracked for reoffenses (n = 193). Of those tracked, 23 committed a new offense. Short-term juvenile recidivism rates are shown in Table 7 and long-term recidivism rates in Table 8.

Table 7. Short-Term Reoffending Data for Youth Exiting Programs: July–December 2016

Performance Measure	Number of Program Youth by Performance Measure
Number of program youth tracked	2,323
Of those tracked, number of program youth who had a new arrest or delinquent offense	76
Number of program youth who were recommitted to juvenile facility	26
Number of program youth who were sentenced to an adult prison	8
Number of program youth who received another sentence	22
Percentage of program youth who reoffend (recidivism)	76/2,323 **(3%)**

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[3] Data reported by 8 grantees.
[4] Data reported by 6 grantees.
[5] Data reported by 3 grantees.

Table 8. Long-Term Reoffending Data for Youth Exiting Programs 6–12 Months Earlier: July–December 2016

Performance Measure	Number of Program Youth by Performance Measure
Number of program youth who exited the program 6–12 months ago who were tracked	193
Of those tracked, number of program youth who had a new arrest or delinquent offense	23
Number of program youth who were recommitted to a juvenile facility	5
Number of program youth who were sentenced to an adult prison	2
Number of program youth who received another sentence	7
Percentage of program youth who reoffend (recidivism)	23/193 **(12%)**

## 2.3 Analysis of System Improvement Programs: July–December 2016

Table 9 shows the percentage of program participants trained under the system improvement program category. Sixty-two percent of the participants trained (n = 3,790) showed an increase in knowledge, skills, or abilities in at least one of the following areas: risk, resiliency, and protective factors; trauma and its impact on children, youth, and families; adolescent development principles and how to apply them; strategies for violence prevention; and other areas.

Table 9. Performance Indicators for System Improvement Programs: July–December 2016

Performance Indicator	Number (Percentage) Reported
Number of additional stakeholders (e.g., government agencies, community groups, task forces) forces, coalitions) joining in violence prevention efforts	260
Number of MOUs developed	22
Number of agency policies or procedures either created, amended, or rescinded	28
Number of earned media coverage episodes or events related to violence prevention	83
Number of program participants who received formal training related to violence prevention	4,826
Percentage of trained program participants who reported an increase in knowledge, skills, or abilities related to violence prevention	3,790/6,072 **(62%)**

Figure 5 shows the types of trainings conducted. The most common type of training conducted is Strategies for Violence Prevention (n = 16). Other types of reported trainings included elder abuse training, domestic violence advocacy, restorative practices in classrooms, and youth–police dialogue.

Figure 5. Types of Trainings Conducted: July–December 2016
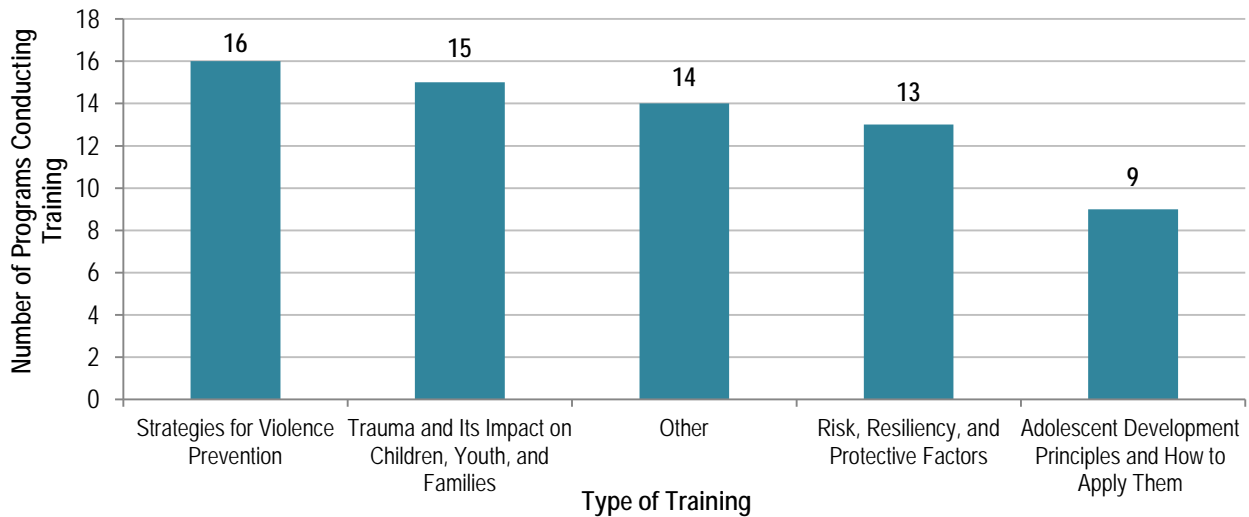
3. Analysis of Violence Prevention Project Questions

Eighty percent (*n* = 36) of the awards had completed the project questions. Across all reporting periods, the compliance rate of completed project questions is 90 percent (*n* = 114) (Table 10).

Table 10. Project Question Reporting Compliance by Period: July 2014–December 2016

Data Reporting Period	Federal Awards with Completed Project Questions	Total Operational Federal Awards	Percentage
July–December 2014	4	4	100%
January–June 2015	6	6	100
July–December 2015	30	33	91
January–June 2016	38	38	100
July–December 2016	36	45	80
Total	**114**	**126**	**90%**

Grantees answer the mandatory project questions during each reporting period. Their answers provide contextual data about the communities and programs involved in the initiative, as well as available resources and data.

Because programs are individually unique and the sample sizes are small, a discussion of the project question data and cross-group comparisons is not included in this document.

Summary

During the July–December 2016 reporting period, Violence Prevention program grantees had a 91-percent reporting compliance rate. Forty-five Federal awards were operational, and 41 awards completed data entry. Grantees selected the system improvement program area most frequently, and the majority of grantees (56 percent) selected only one program area. Eighty-two percent of the programs used some form of evidence-based program or practice. California had the most grantees, and Oregon received the largest amount of Federal funds. Units of local government constituted 56 percent (*n* = 25) of Violence Prevention programs. Eighty percent of the Federal awards had completed the mandatory project questions. However, grantees did not report enough data to analyze core performance measures for direct service prevention and intervention programs during the reporting period.