



Overview of the PMT Data for Violence Prevention Program Grantees: July–December 2017

The Violence Prevention program, administered by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), supports cross-sector community-based collaborations that engage a broad spectrum of local leaders, educators, youth-serving practitioners, decisionmakers, families, and youth. The goal of this work is to prevent and/or reduce youth victimization and children’s exposure to violence, especially gun and gang violence. This program is also designed to promote the well-being and healthy development of children, youth, and families and improve community capacity to address all forms of violence and the impact of trauma.

Report Highlights

All grantees receiving Violence Prevention grant funding are required to report data on their program activities into the Performance Measurement Tool (PMT) on a semi-annual basis. This report presents an overview of the data reported by Violence Prevention program grantees in the PMT for activities occurring during the July–December 2017 reporting period and is divided into two sections:

1. An examination of program information for Violence Prevention program grantees.
2. An analysis of Violence Prevention performance measures.

Key findings for the July–December 2017 reporting period include:

- Forty-four grantees served a total of 18,459 program youth, including 12,026 youth who were new admissions to the program.
- Ninety-seven percent of program youth were served using an evidence-based program or practice.
- Sixty-nine percent of the program youth receiving services designed to improve a specific behavior, such as substance use or social competence, demonstrated a short-term¹ improvement in the targeted behavior area.
- Two percent of youth tracked for offending were arrested for or committed a juvenile offense during the reporting period, and 4 percent tracked for recidivism reoffended while in the program.
- One percent of youth tracked had a gun-related offense during the reporting period.
- Seven percent of program youth were victimized during the reporting period with 4 percent experiencing a gun-related victimization.
- Eighty-six percent of training participants reported an increase in knowledge, skills, or abilities relating to violence prevention.

¹ Short-term outcomes refer to benefits or changes that youth experience while enrolled in the program or 0–6 months after completing the program’s requirements. Long-term outcomes are measured from 6 to 12 months after that participant completes program requirements.

1. Examination of Program Information

1.1 Reporting Compliance

Violence Prevention grantees are required to report semi-annually for each federal award they receive. As table 1 illustrates, 51 grantees completed reporting requirements for the July–December 2017 reporting period, resulting in a compliance rate of 78 percent. Of the 51 grantees who completed their reporting requirements, only 44 reported that they were operational, meaning they expended grant funds and provided services during the reporting period.²

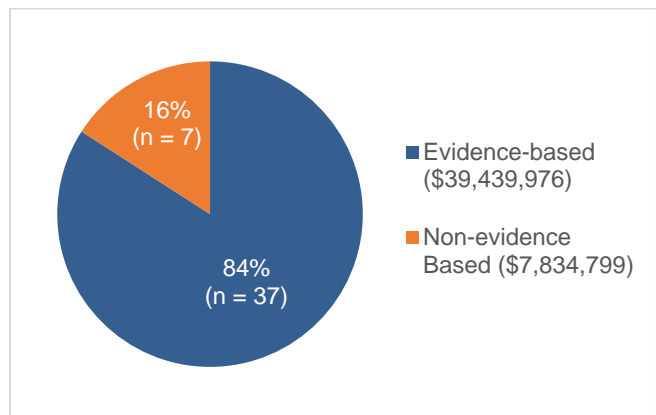
Table 1: Status of Grantee Reporting: July–December 2017

Data Reporting Period	Status			
	Not Started	In Progress	Complete	Total
July–December 2017	12	2	44	65

1.2 Evidence-Based Programing

OJJDP strongly encourages grantees to use evidence-based practices in their violence prevention 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 Violence Prevention grantees prioritize evidence-based programs, grantees are asked to report on whether their programs are evidence-based. As shown in figure 1, of the 44 grantees active during the period, 84 percent were implementing evidence-based programs or practices with a total of \$39.4 million used to fund evidence-based programs.

Figure 1: Grantees Implementing Evidence-Based Programs and/or Practices: July–December 2017³



² Grantees that were not operational, or who did not complete their performance report, are excluded from further analysis in this report.

³ N = 44 grantees.

1.3 Funding Information

Table 2 shows a comprehensive comparison of the federal award amounts by state, with *N* representing the total number of grants that were active during the reporting period.⁴ Based on current and active Violence Prevention grants, California received the most funds with six awards totaling nearly \$6.5 million, which is 14 percent of the total Violence Prevention funding during the period.

Table 2: Federal Award Amount by State: July–December 2017⁵

State	<i>N</i>	Grant Amount	State	<i>N</i>	Grant amount
CA	6	\$6,475,816	MO	1	\$1,953,319
MA	4	\$4,800,496	MD	3	\$1,793,769
NJ	5	\$3,321,105	WA	3	\$1,174,561
ME	2	\$3,222,260	IN	1	\$1,000,000
OH	1	\$3,222,260	WI	1	\$750,000
TN	1	\$3,222,260	VA	1	\$737,770
NY	2	\$3,151,073	MN	1	\$612,423
CO	2	\$3,113,949	PA	1	\$602,273
OR	2	\$2,722,261	KY	2	\$561,534
MI	1	\$2,182,000	FL	1	\$327,825
IL	2	\$1,999,996	NC	1	\$327,825

1.4 Organization Type

Local government agencies, including counties, cities, and districts, made up the bulk of awards, representing 55 percent of grantees reporting in the July–December 2017 period (table 3). Nonprofit community-based organizations represented 20 percent of Violence Prevention awards while other government agencies accounted for 14 percent of awards.

⁴ The amounts represent the grant program for the life of the award, regardless of when it was awarded, and these amounts do not account for how much funding has been spent during the reporting period.

⁵ *N* = 44 grantees.

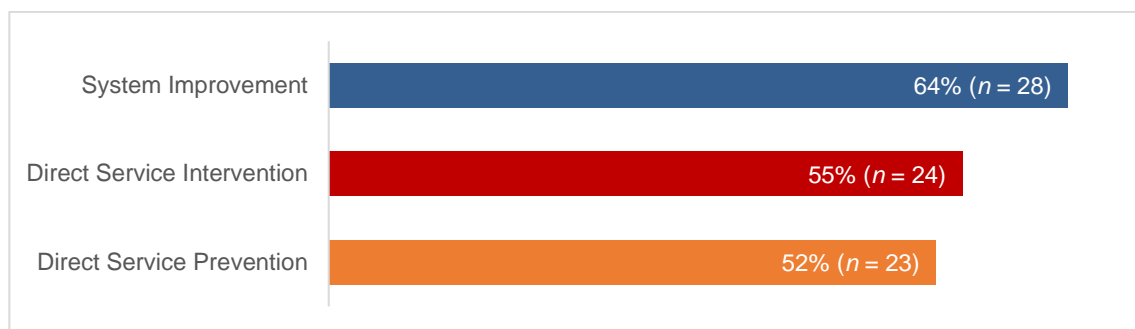
Table 3: Active Grants by Organization Type: July–December 2017⁶

Implementing Organization Type	N	Percentage
Local Government Agency	24	55%
Non-profit Community-based Organization	9	20%
Other Government Agency	6	14%
Police/Other Law Enforcement	4	9%
Coalition	1	2%
Total	44	N/A

1.5 Program Categories

The activities funded by the Violence Prevention Initiative grant programs are organized into three categories: prevention, intervention, and system improvement. Prevention activities concentrate on providing direct services to youth who have not yet become involved in violence. Intervention activities focus on providing direct services to youth to remediate existing delinquent behavior and alter the course of youth who are at risk of becoming further involved in the juvenile justice system. System improvement activities involve enhancing or improving existing juvenile justice system approaches and services intended to prevent youth violence. Figure 2, below, shows the number of grantees reporting data associated with activities in each of these three program areas. During the July–December 2017 reporting period, the majority of grantees reported in the system improvement category, followed by direct service intervention and direct service prevention.

Figure 2: Frequency of Program Area Selections: July–December 2017⁷



⁶ N = 44 grantees.

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2. Analysis of Program Performance Measures

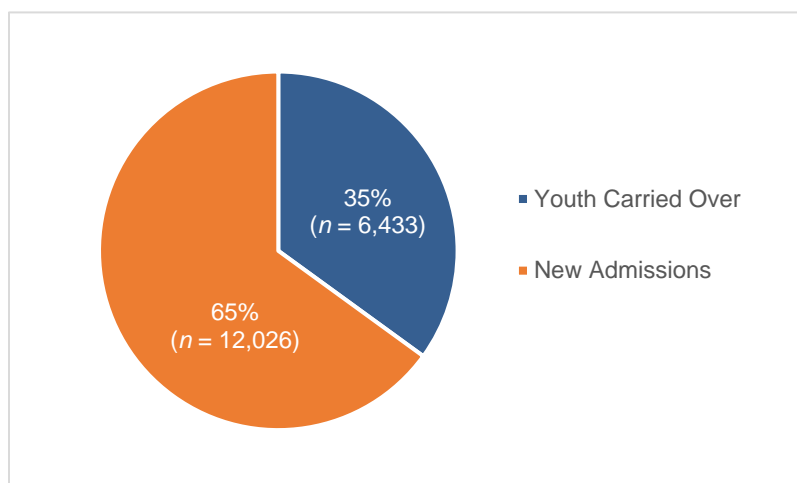
Grantees report on performance measures, which collect data on grantees’ activities and program outcomes. These performance measures help OJJDP determine whether the Violence Prevention grant program has achieved its goals and objectives and may be used to improve program design and policy decisions at the federal level.

Grantees are asked to report on performance measures over both the short-term (for youth enrolled in the program or 0–6 months following departure from the program) and the long-term (6–12 months following departure from the program). However, due to the nature of the programs enacted by the grantees, it is difficult to maintain contact with all youth served over long periods of time, and many grantees are unable to report on long-term measures. Therefore, long-term performance data are not included in this report.

2.1 Youth Served

During the July–December 2017 reporting period, Violence Prevention grantees served 18,459 youth participants. Of the youth served during this reporting period, 12,026 of them (65 percent) were new admissions receiving services for the first time (figure 3) and 97 percent were served with an evidence-based program or practice.⁸ It is important to note that sometimes when a youth enters a program, the timing may not directly correlate to the 6-month reporting period. Therefore, some youth are carried over to the next reporting period.

Figure 3: Number of Program Youth Served: January–June 2017



⁸ Grantees reported 15,819 youth served using an evidence-based model or program out of 16,343 total youth served during the reporting period. This number for total youth served is inconsistent with the count of new admissions and youth carried over as it is reported separately.

2.2 Target Behaviors

Programs using grant funds to provide direct services to youth are required to measure program youth performance and track outcome data for certain target behaviors. A target behavior is one that a grantee has chosen to track for youth served by a program; it measures a “positive” change in a behavior such as school attendance, antisocial behavior, and community involvement. Table 4 lists short-term behavior outcomes for program youth. Target behaviors that did not have enough reported data were excluded from the analysis. Overall, 69 percent of the program youth demonstrated an intended change in target behaviors in the short-term. The greatest improvements were observed around behaviors associated with family relationships, with 96 percent of youth demonstrating positive changes, and gun-related behavior, with 94 percent of youth demonstrating a behavior improvement.

Table 4: Target Behaviors (Short-term): July–December 2017

Target Behavior	Youth with Noted Behavioral Change	Youth Receiving Services for Target Behavior	Percentage of Youth with Noted Behavioral Change
Family Relationships	136	141	96%
Gun-related Behavior	105	112	94%
Change in Knowledge	157	179	88%
Community Involvement	88	105	84%
School Attendance	2,039	2,882	71%
Social Competence	106	166	64%
Gang Resistance/Involvement	171	286	60%
Antisocial Behavior	153	292	52%
Employment Status	162	339	48%
Total	3,117	4,502	69%

2.3 Program Youth Offenses

Program success is also demonstrated through outcomes that are designed to reveal the impact of programs on preventing or reducing juvenile offending. This is measured by the number of youth currently being served by a Violence Prevention program who were arrested for or committed a delinquent offense during the reporting period. As shown in Table 5, during the July–December 2017 reporting period 6,763 program youth were tracked for offenses. Of those, 117 youth, about 2 percent, were arrested or committed delinquent offense. In addition, 20 youth were committed to a juvenile residential facility, 9 were sentenced to adult prison, and 25 received some other sentence.

Table 5: Short-term Program Youth Offending Data: July–December 2017

Performance Measure	Number of Program Youth
Program youth tracked	6,763
Youth with an arrest or delinquent offense	117
Youth committed to a juvenile facility	20
Youth sentenced to adult prison during	9
Youth who received some other sentence	25
Percentage of program youth who offend	(117/6,763) 2%

To track the program’s success at reducing violence, grantees track and report data on program youth who experience a gun-related arrest or commit a gun-related delinquent offense while enrolled in a Violence Prevention program. As shown in table 6, of the 6,735 youth tracked for a gun-related offense, only 18, or less than 1 percent of youth, were arrested for a *violent* gun-related offense or committed a *violent* gun-related delinquent offense. This is slightly lower than youth arrested for a *nonviolent* gun-related offense or youth who committed a *nonviolent* gun-related delinquent offense ($n = 28$). The low offending rates of program youth suggest Violence prevention programs are successfully keeping youth out of trouble while they are in the program and/or 0–6 months after they leave the program.

Table 6: Short-term Gun-Related Offending Data: July–December 2017

Performance Measure	Number of Program Youth
Program youth tracked	6,735
Youth with a violent gun-related arrest or delinquent offense	18
Youth with a nonviolent gun-related arrest or delinquent offense	28
Percentage of program youth with a gun-related offense	(46/6,735) 1%

2.4 Program Youth Recidivism

Grantees are required to report on recidivism measures that track reoffending outcomes for youth while enrolled in the program or 0–6 months after completing the program’s requirements. These youth are typically served in intervention programs that have a goal of preventing subsequent offenses. As shown in table 7, 4 percent of the youth who were tracked during the reporting period reoffended while in the program. For gun-related offenses, the number of youth recidivating was even lower, with only 1 percent of youth experiencing a new gun-related arrest or delinquent offense (table 8).

Table 7: Short-term Reoffending Data: July–December 2017

Performance Measure	Number of Program Youth
Program youth tracked	2,280
Youth with a new arrest or delinquent offense	92
Youth recommitted to juvenile facility	20
Youth sentenced to an adult prison	9
Youth who received some other sentence	21
Percentage of program youth who reoffend	(92/2,280) 4%

Table 8: Short-term Gun-Related Reoffending Data: July–December 2017

Performance Measure	Number of Program Youth
Program youth tracked	2,139
Youth who had a new violent gun-related arrest or delinquent offense	14
Youth who had a new nonviolent gun-related arrest or delinquent	16
Percent of program youth with a gun-related re-offense	(30/2,139) 1%

2.5 Program Youth Victimization

A central objective of the Violence Prevention program is to prevent and reduce the victimization of youth. Grantees measure their progress towards reducing victimization by reporting the number and percentage of program youth exposed to violence, including both direct victimization (e.g., child abuse, neglect, or maltreatment) and indirect victimization (e.g., witnessing domestic violence or community violence). As shown in table 9, 7 percent of program youth were harmed or adversely affect by someone else’s criminal actions during the reporting period. In addition, 4 percent of program youth experienced a violent or nonviolent event involving a gun during the reporting period (table 10).

Table 9: Program Youth Victimization: July–December 2017

Performance Measure	Number of Program Youth
Program youth tracked	2,620
Youth who were victimized	179
Percentage of program youth victimized	(179/2,620) 7%

Table 10: Gun-Related Victimization: July–December 2017

Performance Measure	Number of Program Youth
Program youth tracked	2,153
Youth who experience a violent gun-related victimization	54
Youth who experience a nonviolent gun-related victimization	24
Percent of program youth with a gun-related victimization	(78/2,153) 4%

2.6 System Improvement

System Improvement programs can include activities that promote systems and policy changes in addressing youth violence at the national, state and local levels, including collaboration of key stakeholders, creation of policies or procedures, media coverage, and training. As shown in table 11, nearly 2,000 new stakeholders joined grantees in violence prevention efforts, including government agencies, community groups, task forces, and coalitions, resulting in 37 new memorandums of understanding and 39 new or revised policies. Over 6,000 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 providing post-training feedback, 86 percent reported increased knowledge or skills.

Table 11: Performance Indicators for System Improvement Programs: January–June 2017

Performance Measure	Number of Program Youth by Performance Measure
Number of program participants who received formal training related to violence prevention	6,452
Number of additional stakeholders joining in violence prevention efforts	1,721
Number of earned media coverage episodes or events related to violence prevention	113
Number of agency policies or procedures either created, amended, or rescinded	39
Number of memorandums of understanding (MOUs) developed	37
Percentage of trained program participants who report an increase in knowledge, skills, or abilities related to violence prevention ⁹	5,120/5,960 (86%)

Summary

During the July–December 2017 reporting period, OJJDP’s Violence Prevention program had 44 operational grantees, with a 78 percent reporting compliance rate. Eighty-four percent of the programs used some form of evidence-based program or practice, and 97 percent of program youth were served using an evidence-based model or program. All programs served a total of 18,459 youth, and 65 percent of those youth received Violence Prevention program services for the first time. Overall, in the short-term, 69 percent of program youth had a desired change in certain behaviors targeted by the program for improvement. The greatest improvements were around behaviors associated with family relationships and gun-related behavior. Short-term data also reveal promising results for programming designed to prevent or reduce youth offending and recidivism rates. Of youth tracked during the reporting period, only 2 percent of program youth offended, and just 4 percent of program youth reoffended. The low percentage of program youth experiencing victimization in the short-term

⁹ Based on the total number of participants providing post-training feedback, either through pre/post-test or participants’ self-reported feedback.

(7 percent) also suggests the Violence Prevention program is successfully preventing or reducing youth from exposure to violence. It is important to note that since long-term data are not included in the analysis for this report, it is not known if offending/reoffending rates increased 6–12 months after youth completed the program or if a larger number of youth experienced victimization in the long-term. Findings related to system improvement revealed 86 percent of participants receiving training by grantees reported an increased in their knowledge, skills, or abilities related to violence prevention.