



Office of Juvenile Justice
and Delinquency Prevention

TRIBAL YOUTH PROGRAM

PERFORMANCE REPORT

July-December 2020

Publication date: Fall 2022

WORKING FOR YOUTH JUSTICE AND SAFETY

VISION STATEMENT

OJJDP envisions a nation where our children are free from crime and violence. If they come into contact with the justice system, the contact should be rare, fair, and beneficial to them.

MISSION STATEMENT

OJJDP provides national leadership, coordination, and resources to prevent and respond to youth delinquency and victimization. The Office helps states, localities, and tribes develop effective and equitable juvenile justice systems that create safer communities and empower youth to lead productive lives.

This report was produced by Booz Allen Hamilton under contract number DJO-BJA-16-S-0272, awarded by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this report are those of the contributors and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice. The accuracy of the data in this document is dependent on the precision of grantee data entry. All information included reflects self-reported data provided by OJJDP grantees.

It is important to note that accurate data rely on correct data tracking and entry by the grantees and those agencies reporting to grantees, as such the data and analysis findings provided reflect the information as reported. The Office of Justice Programs makes no representations as to the accuracy or completeness of the data presented, nor does it make any inferences as to the effectiveness of grant funded programs and the associated outcomes.

INTRODUCTION

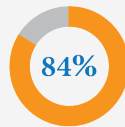
The Tribal Youth Program (TYP)—administered by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP)—seeks to support and enhance Tribal efforts to prevent and reduce juvenile delinquency and strengthen a fair and beneficial juvenile justice system response for American Indian and Alaska Native youth. The funding in this purpose area enables tribes to develop, expand, or strengthen approaches along the juvenile justice continuum that can range from prevention to intervention and treatment. This program helps tribes develop effective and equitable juvenile justice systems that create safer communities and empower youth to lead productive lives.¹

OJJDP requires grantees to report on performance measures to demonstrate whether TYP achieved its goals. This report presents TYP program activities occurring between July and December 2020 and highlights grantee results achieved with OJJDP funding.²

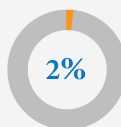
Highlights

5,154
NUMBER OF
YOUTH SERVED

Youth demonstrated
positive behavior
change



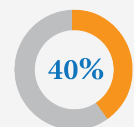
Youth
offending



Youth
reoffending³



Grantees who implemented
an evidence-based
program or practice



OVERVIEW OF AWARD INFORMATION

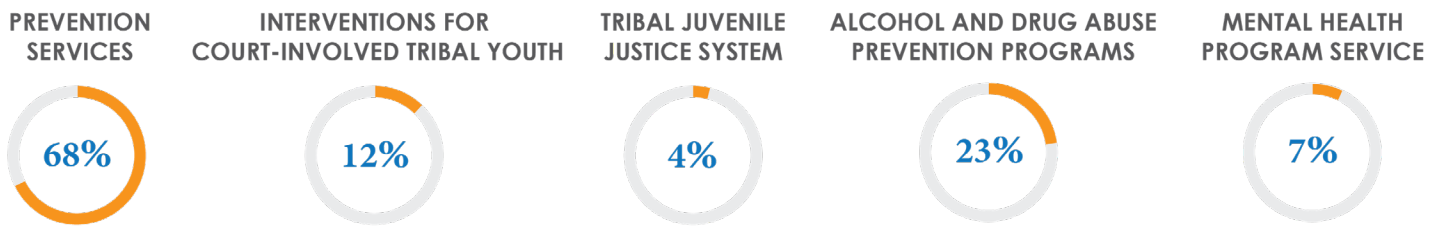
Between July and December 2020, OJJDP’s TYP funded 57 awards, with 74 percent of grantees completing their reporting requirements (figure 1). Of the 57 funded awards, 42 TYP awards were operational (i.e., expending grant funds during the period). The total available funding during the period exceeded \$14 million. Of the types of activities implemented by TYP grantees, the majority (68 percent) implemented prevention services (figure 2).

Figure 1. Award Details



¹ Coordinated Youth Tribal Youth Solicitation. 2016. <https://www.justice.gov/jmd/file/934626/download>
² The data in this document is reflective of the data grantees report and does not include extreme outliers.
³ Only 9 out of the 52 operational grantees reported on this measure.

Figure 2. Types of Program Activities Reported by Grantees⁴



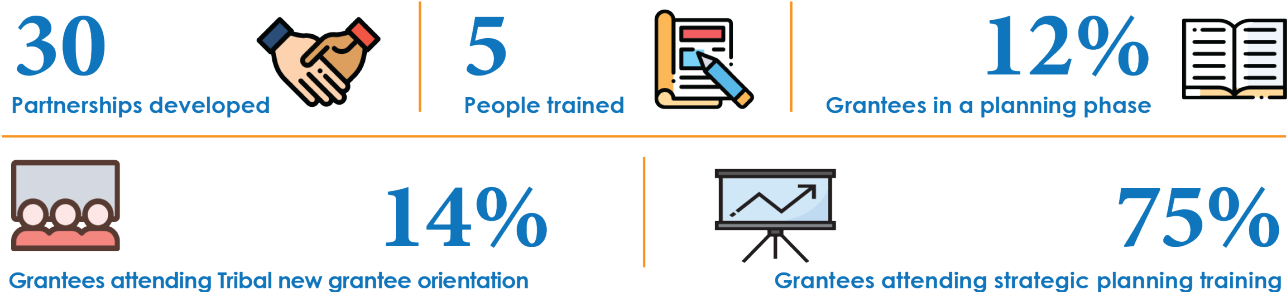
EVIDENCE-BASED PROGRAMS⁵

OJJDP encourages grantees to use evidence-based programs. Evidence-based programs include program models shown—through rigorous evaluation and replication—to be effective at preventing or reducing juvenile delinquency or related risk factors. TYP grantees implement specific evidence-based programs and practices that use culturally based strategies to address individual youth needs. During the July–December 2020 activity period, 40 percent of TYP grantees used OJJDP funds to implement an evidence-based program or practice. Existing research on evidence-based programming in Tribal communities is limited because empirically supported practices are typically developed for non-native populations. Additionally, Tribes adapt evidence-based programs and practices from traditional models that represent Tribal culture and values.⁶

PLANNING YEAR ACTIVITIES

OJJDP requires TYP to engage and report on planning activities during their first year, which includes strategic planning, collecting data, establishing activities, attending OJJDP-sponsored trainings, and partnership development. The planning phase supports grantees through a strategic planning process designed to identify program challenges and strategies when developing their mission, organizational structure, and action plan. This process allows them to create necessary partnerships for program implementation and sustainability. During the July–December 2020 activity period, 12 percent of grantees engaged in planning activities (see figure 3). Collectively, grantees in this planning phase developed 30 new partnerships and trained five people.

Figure 3. Planning Activities



⁴ No grantees reported indigent defense program activities.

⁵ Existing research is limited on the success of evidence-based programming in tribal communities. Widespread usage of evidence-based practices among tribes is difficult to implement and track due to varying tribal cultures and values. <https://www.ojjdp.gov/mpg/litreviews/Tribal-youth-in-the-Juvenile-Justice-System.pdf>

⁶ Tribal Youth in the Juvenile Justice System. 2016. <https://www.ojjdp.gov/mpg/litreviews/Tribal-youth-in-the-Juvenile-Justice-System.pdf>. Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

YOUTH AND FAMILIES SERVED

TYP grantees are required to report on the number of youth and families served during each activity period. During the July–December 2020 activity period, TYP grantees served a total of 8,801 youth and families, 59 percent of which were youths ($n = 5,154$), and 41 percent were families ($n = 3,647$).⁷

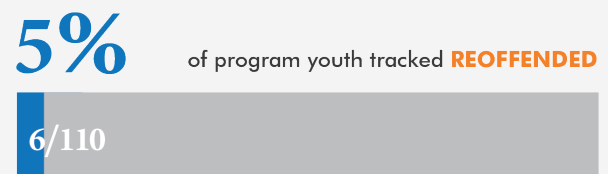
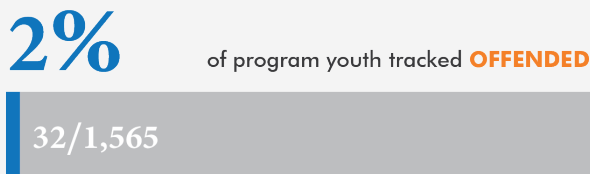
5,154

Number of youth served

PROGRAM YOUTH OFFENSES AND RECIDIVISM

Grantees report short-term⁸ data on program youth who offend and recidivate to help gauge the program’s success at reducing delinquency and improving outcomes for participants. During the July—December 2020 activity period, 2 percent of tracked youth offended in the short term (figure 4), 5 percent of tracked youth reoffended in the short term (figure 4).

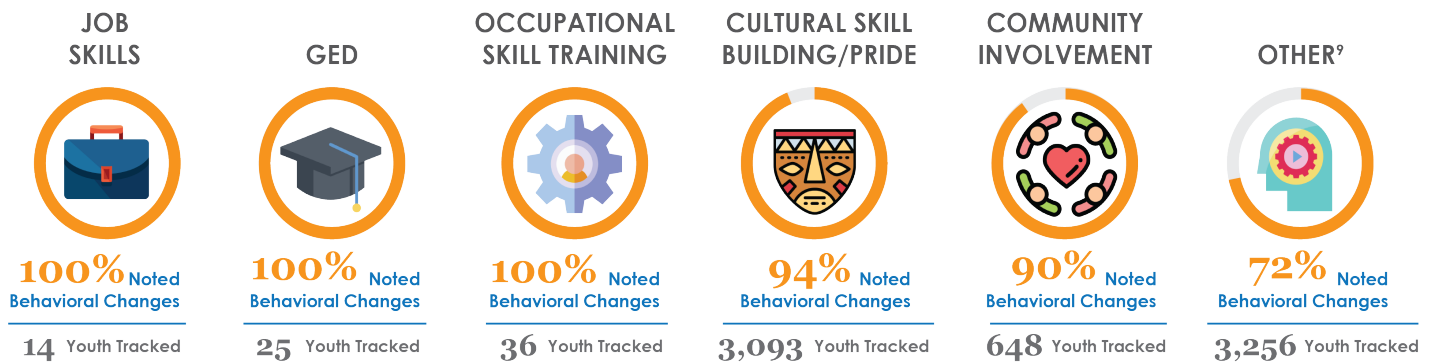
Figure 4. Short-term Offending and Reoffending Data



TARGET BEHAVIORS

Tribal Youth Programs collect and report data that track short-term behavior changes to measure the program’s impact on the youths’ performance in several targeted areas, such as family relationships, social behaviors, and cultural skill building. During the July–December 2020 activity period, 100 percent of youth served for GED, occupational skill training and job skills improvement demonstrated the most positive change. Additionally, 94 percent of youth exhibited an improvement in cultural skill building/cultural pride. Overall, 84 percent of program youth exhibited a desired change in a targeted behavior.

Figure 4. Short-term Outcome Percentages for the Specified Target Behaviors



⁷ The data reflected on youth and families served does not include extreme outliers.

⁸ Short-term includes youth tracked for the behavior of interest who received services during the activity period or youth who exited the activity period.

⁹ Other target behaviors include grade point average, high school completion, family functioning, antisocial behavior, social competence, school attendance, gang resistance, prosocial behavior, substance use, family relationships, and employment status.

CONCLUSION

OJJDP recognizes that tribes present varying challenges and strengths, which may challenge their ability to prevent juvenile delinquency or to intervene and treat Tribal youth when necessary. Tribes use OJJDP funds to develop, expand, or strengthen approaches along the juvenile justice continuum that can range from prevention to intervention and treatment. This program helps tribes develop effective and equitable juvenile justice systems that create safer communities and empower youth to lead productive lives. Through TYP, OJJDP supports efforts to interrupt the disproportionate representation of American Indian and Alaska Native youth in the juvenile justice system, and increase their access to culturally appropriate direct service resources.¹⁰ The services may include developing culturally based prevention programs, implementing mental health treatment and trauma-informed programs, and strengthening state-Tribal collaborations to divert Native American youth from the juvenile justice system.

It is important to recognize the impact of the COVID-19 global health pandemic in Tribal communities and the limitations of the grant recipients' ability to fully implement programs during the July–December 2020 reporting period. The pandemic led to lockdowns in Tribal communities, massive infections, and deaths, which resulted in the decline in the number of youth participating in programs.

During the July–December 2020 activity period, 42 TYP operational awards served a total of 8,801 youth and families. In addition, 12 percent of grantees conducted planning activities, which resulted in 30 new partnerships and training for five individuals. Of those served ($n = 8,801$), 59 percent were youths ($n = 5,154$) and 41 percent ($n = 3,647$) were families. Overall, 84 percent of program youth exhibited a desired change in targeted behaviors in the short term, with GED, occupational skill training and job skills improvement showing the greatest improvement. Lastly, 98 percent of youth did not offend and 95 percent did not recidivate in the short term.

¹⁰ Tribal Youth Program Fact Sheet. 2016. <https://www.ojjdp.gov/mpg/litreviews/Tribal-youth-in-the-Juvenile-Justice-System.pdf>