



Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

# 2019 Annual Report



**U.S. Department of Justice**  
**Office of Justice Programs**  
810 Seventh Street NW.  
Washington, DC 20531

**Caren Harp**  
*Administrator*  
Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

**Office of Justice Programs**  
Building Solutions • Supporting Communities • Advancing Justice  
*ojp.gov*

**Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention**  
Enhancing Safety • Ensuring Accountability • Empowering Youth  
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The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention is a component of the Office of Justice Programs, which also includes the Bureau of Justice Assistance; the Bureau of Justice Statistics; the National Institute of Justice; the Office for Victims of Crime; and the Office of Sex Offender Sentencing, Monitoring, Apprehending, Registering, and Tracking.



Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

# 2019 Annual Report



NCJ 253179

This report covers activities undertaken by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention during fiscal year 2019 (October 1, 2018–September 30, 2019).

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**To the President, the Attorney General, the President pro tempore of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Chairs of the Committees on the Judiciary of the Senate and the House of Representatives, the Chair of the Committee on Education and Labor of the House of Representatives, and Members of Congress:**

It is my privilege to transmit the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's (OJJDP's) annual report for fiscal year 2019. This report describes programs and activities that OJJDP carried out in fiscal year 2019.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Caren Harp". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Caren Harp

Administrator

Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention



# Foreword

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) strives to enhance public safety, ensure offender accountability, and empower youth to live productive, crime-free lives. In fiscal year 2019, our Office awarded more than \$323 million to support state, local, and tribal efforts to deter delinquency and safeguard children.

This past fiscal year marked important milestones in the juvenile justice field. We celebrated the 45th anniversary of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act, the historic statute that established OJJDP and began our longstanding partnership with states and territories. We also saw the passage of the Juvenile Justice Reform Act (JJRA). This statute, for the first time in 16 years, reauthorized and substantially amended the JJDP Act to continue the work of this Office. To the extent available, we include in this report information that corresponds to data summaries identified in the JJRA.



We renewed our focus on supporting the field through several initiatives throughout 2019. In September, we convened a national training conference to help states comply with the core requirements of the Act and understand the new requirements under the JJRA. We also substantially redesigned our website to improve access to OJJDP's resources. The new website includes a comprehensive state support page with information about Formula Grants funding determinations and compliance.

OJJDP continues to stay focused on issues of national concern. We work with communities plagued by gang and gun violence, as well as neighborhoods affected by drug abuse. We pursue better methods to protect children who are abused, exploited, or exposed to violence—and to inspire young people who need positive adult mentors. We support the important work of juvenile prosecutors and are committed to enhancing the effectiveness of community supervision and reentry programs. When young people are empowered to live up to their potential, our communities become stronger and safer places in which to live and learn.

During this anniversary year, we are proud to celebrate the historic work of OJJDP, but we know that many challenges remain. We are eager to take them on. We are grateful, as always, to have strong and dedicated partners at the state and local levels who share our commitment to help young people fulfill their promise.

Caren Harp  
Administrator  
Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention





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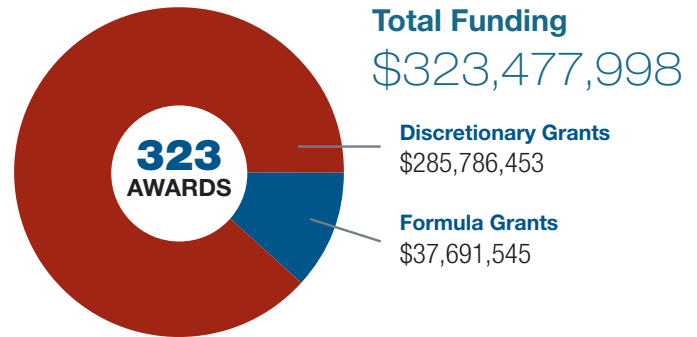
# OJJDP Fiscal Year 2019 Awards at a Glance

[ojjdp.ojp.gov/funding](http://ojjdp.ojp.gov/funding)

In fiscal year 2019, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) awarded more than \$323 million in grants.

OJJDP awards discretionary grants through a competitive process to states, units of local government, tribal jurisdictions, and organizations to administer a variety of juvenile justice and child protection programs.

The Office's formula grants support state, local, and tribal efforts to reduce and prevent delinquency, improve the juvenile justice system, and protect children from violence and abuse.



Select discretionary grants are highlighted below. For a complete listing of fiscal year 2019 awards, see [ojjdp.ojp.gov/funding](http://ojjdp.ojp.gov/funding).



## Youth Mentoring

**\$83,087,535**

OJJDP's National Mentoring Resource Center provided 10,141 hours of technical assistance in response to 528 requests from mentoring organizations in fiscal year 2019.

Mentoring Opportunities for Youth Initiative	\$81,087,535
National Mentoring Resource Center	\$2,000,000



## Missing and Exploited Children

**\$78,380,843**

Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force Program	\$36,163,569
National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC)	\$33,517,274
National AMBER Alert Training and Technical Assistance Program	\$4,400,000
Strengthening Investigative Tools and Technology for Combating Child Sexual Exploitation	\$2,500,000
Missing & Exploited Children Training and Technical Assistance Program	\$1,800,000

In fiscal year 2019, NCMEC's CyberTipline received 15,304,197 reports regarding child sexual exploitation or online harm to children.



## Victims of Child Abuse Act Program

**\$35,878,939**

Children's Advocacy Centers and Related Programs	\$19,296,462
Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) Membership and Accreditation Program and Training and Technical Assistance Project	\$10,696,017
Child Abuse Training for Judicial and Court Personnel	\$2,686,460
Training and Technical Assistance for Child Abuse Prosecutors	\$2,400,000
Training and Technical Assistance for Child Abuse Professionals	\$800,000

OJJDP-supported CASA programs served more than 271,000 abused and neglected children in 2019.



## Substance Abuse

### \$25,995,287

OJJDP's drug court programs provide services for youth and families with substance abuse challenges, specifically those related to opioid abuse or co-occurring mental health disorders.

Family Drug Court Program	\$11,502,530
Opioid Affected Youth Initiative	\$7,992,757
Juvenile Drug Treatment Court Program	\$6,500,000



## Youth Gangs and Violence

### \$14,495,847

OJJDP's National Gang Center provides best practices, training, and strategic tools to address gang violence.

Comprehensive School-Based Approach to Youth Violence and Victimization	\$7,107,594
Supporting Victims of Gang Violence Program	\$3,177,722
Youth Gang Desistance/ Diversion Program	\$2,000,000
Youth Gang Suppression Implementation Program	\$1,380,000
National Gang Center	\$830,531



## Reentry

### \$11,234,213

OJJDP's Second Chance Act awards help implement and sustain effective reentry programs for youth returning to their communities after confinement.

Second Chance Act Youth Offender Reentry Program	\$6,729,900
Second Chance Act Addressing the Needs of Incarcerated Parents and Their Minor Children	\$4,504,313



## Juvenile Justice System Support

### \$9,562,918

Together with the Formula Grants program, these awards fund resources, training, and technical assistance to support states' system improvement efforts.

Coordinated Assistance to States Program	\$5,793,436
Enhancements for Juvenile Indigent Defense	\$1,769,482
Addressing the Training Needs of Juvenile Prosecutors	\$1,550,000
Juvenile Justice Facility Leadership Certificate Program	\$450,000



## Child Trafficking

### \$8,281,454

OJJDP funds comprehensive services and interventions for victims of child sexual exploitation and trafficking.

Specialized Services and Mentoring for Child and Youth Victims of Sex Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation	\$4,781,454
Responding to Instances of Child Sex Trafficking Victimization	\$3,500,000



## Tribal Youth

### \$6,565,139

OJJDP's culturally responsive initiatives offer mentoring, promote leadership skills in tribal youth, and help combat substance abuse.

Tribal Youth Program	\$3,146,905
Tribal Juvenile Healing to Wellness Courts	\$1,750,000
Tribal Youth Resource Center	\$1,368,234
Alaska Native Youth Training and Technical Assistance Project	\$300,000

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) was established through the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974, Public Law 93-415. A component of the Office of Justice Programs within the U.S. Department of Justice, OJJDP works to prevent and control juvenile delinquency, improve the juvenile justice system, and protect children.



# Chapter 1. Prevention

## Mentoring Youth

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) provided more than \$83 million to support mentoring programs and services for youth in fiscal year (FY) 2019. Through its **Mentoring Opportunities for Youth initiative**, the Office awarded more than \$81 million to 29 organizations across 18 states and the District of Columbia.



The initiative funds mentoring for youth who are at high risk for juvenile delinquency and juvenile justice system involvement. The funding included \$15 million to address the national opioid epidemic.

OJJDP awarded \$2 million to continue operations of the **National Mentoring Resource Center**. In November 2018, the center hosted two webinars to disseminate findings from OJJDP’s Mentoring Enhancement Demonstration program. The program revealed that mentors with previous experience in one of the helping professions (e.g., ministry, education, or social work) who implemented mentoring enhancements, including teaching and advocacy functions, were better able to help youth with conflict management, emotional well-being, and problem solving. In FY 2019, the center provided 10,141 hours of technical assistance in response to 528 requests from mentoring organizations.

In January 2019, OJJDP participated in the National Mentoring Summit as a presenting partner. Organized by MENTOR: The National Mentoring Partnership, the event brought together 1,327 participants to promote and support mentoring programs. In an orientation session held before the summit, OJJDP staff trained new grantees on federal grant requirements and best practices in mentoring as identified in the guide *Elements of Effective Practice for Mentoring*.

The Office continues to gather data through its **Mentoring Children of Incarcerated Parents Demonstration program**—a practitioner-researcher partnership to develop and evaluate new mentoring practices to serve this population. Although the program is ongoing, the data have revealed some vital information about the characteristics, risk factors, and protective factors of these children. Program findings will provide important insight into strategies for fostering positive family engagement between incarcerated parents and their children, as well as best practices for prevention and intervention programs for this population.

## Mentoring in Action: Bigs in Blue

A police officer in Dallas, TX, Christy Chamberlain sees young people caught in the grip of delinquency nearly every day. Christy saw a need, so she became a mentor through Bigs in Blue, a program of Big Brothers Big Sisters of America that is funded by OJJDP. Bigs in Blue matches police officers (“bigs”) with children (“littles”) who come largely from poor or single-parent homes or who have an incarcerated parent. Nationwide, there are 82 Bigs in Blue initiatives that have matched 1,090 police officers with children in the communities they patrol.

Christy and her “little,” 8-year-old Nyla, meet weekly. They visit museums, amusement parks, and the ice skating rink. Nyla, who lives in a high-crime area of Dallas, was skeptical when she first learned Christy was a police officer, but Christy has noticed a shift in Nyla’s perceptions. “She stopped asking if I shoot all the black people,” Christy said, “and wrote a story about an officer who saved a puppy.”

Christy and Nyla have fun together, but the aim of their relationship is much more. Christy supports Nyla’s interest in reading through trips to the library and introduced her to a friend who works in the fashion industry when Nyla expressed an interest in fashion. Now Nyla says she wants to be a fashion designer and a teacher because “I’m smart and I love to learn!”



Bigs in Blue participants, Officer Christy Chamberlain and Nyla. Christy supports Nyla’s interest in reading through trips to the library.

## Children Exposed to Violence

In May 2019, OJJDP and the National Police Foundation cohosted a listening session on how to prevent and respond to school violence. The goal is to develop national school safety guidelines and best practices as well as a training curriculum for K–12 school stakeholders. The session included an overview of the **Averted School Violence Database**—a secure website where school personnel, law enforcement officers, mental health professionals, and others involved in school safety can share their experiences and lessons learned anonymously to improve safety and prevent future violence.

OJJDP’s **Comprehensive School-Based Approach to Youth Violence and Victimization program** supports evidence-based prevention, intervention, and accountability efforts in school settings. In FY 2019, OJJDP awarded more than \$7 million under the program. The funding is helping eight sites reduce youth offending and victimization, improve the response to children’s exposure to violence, and enhance public safety. A training and technical assistance provider is assisting the sites as they implement their school-based strategies.

With support from OJJDP, in FY 2019 the International Association of Chiefs of Police continued developing an online training series with scenario-based learning to help frontline law enforcement officers respond effectively to children who have been exposed to violence and traumatic events. The series is based on the OJJDP-funded Protecting and Serving: Enhancing Law Enforcement Response to Children Exposed to Violence **classroom course** and **Enhancing Police Responses to Children Exposed to Violence: A Toolkit for Law Enforcement**. The training will be released in FY 2020.

OJJDP expanded the reach of its **Changing Minds** national public awareness campaign during FY 2019. Launched in 2016, the campaign is raising awareness about the impact of exposure to violence on children and aims to motivate adults who regularly interact with youth to help. In 2019, the Office released additional resources for use by teachers, school administrators, and mentors, including an infographic and Spanish-language videos derived from the campaign’s “Everyday Gestures” videos. The Office is working on an infographic targeted to healthcare providers.

## Tribal Youth

In FY 2019, the Office awarded more than \$6.5 million to support initiatives for American Indian and Alaska Native youth. OJJDP participates in the Department of Justice’s Coordinated Tribal Assistance Solicitation, which allows tribes to submit a single application for most of the Department’s tribal grant programs. OJJDP supports two purpose areas within the solicitation—the Tribal Youth Program and Tribal Juvenile Healing to Wellness Courts.

Through the **Tribal Youth Program**, OJJDP awarded more than \$3.1 million to nine geographically diverse grantees to support prevention, intervention, and treatment programs that benefit tribal youth. The Office awarded an additional \$1.75 million under the **Tribal Juvenile Healing to Wellness Courts program**. Through this program, OJJDP enhances the capacity of tribal courts to respond to the substance use challenges of court-involved youth. The funding will help the five participating courts to strengthen policies, assessment tools, and service models that address alcohol and substance use in tribal communities.

## Model Programs Guide

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention’s (OJJDP’s) **Model Programs Guide** is an online repository of evidence-based prevention, intervention, and reentry programs and practices for juvenile justice practitioners, policymakers, and communities.

With more than 350 programs reviewed under CrimeSolutions.gov’s evaluation criteria, the guide catalogs what works, what doesn’t, and what’s promising in juvenile justice, delinquency prevention, and child protection and safety. Topical literature reviews and Implementation Guides (I-Guides) are also available on the Model Programs Guide.

OJJDP released an **I-Guide on juvenile reentry programs** in October 2018. The I-Guide outlines 10 essential steps to take before implementing an evidence-based reentry program, provides an overview of factors that may affect implementation, and offers solutions to common implementation challenges.

Access the Model Programs Guide by visiting [ojjdp.gov/mpg](http://ojjdp.gov/mpg).

Training and technical assistance grants of nearly \$1.4 million to the **Tribal Youth Resource Center** and \$300,000 to the **Alaska Native Youth Training and Technical Assistance Project** are funding comprehensive and culturally relevant support to the tribal communities as they create or enhance programs and services for youth.

In December 2018, OJJDP sponsored the National Tribal Youth Conference—a biennial gathering of tribal grantees and other intervention, prevention, and court-based programs serving tribal youth. The multitrack event gave participants the opportunity to engage with experts in the field of tribal juvenile justice, learn about strategies to promote safety in tribal communities, and network with peers.

## Consulting With Indian Tribes

In FY 2019, the Office laid the groundwork for a series of future consultations with tribes. During the FY 2020 strategic planning meeting of Tribal Youth Program grantees, OJJDP will hold a listening session to learn about tribes' needs and respond to queries concerning Juvenile Justice Reform Act provisions applicable to tribes. The Office will also host a webinar for a broader group of representatives to inform them about the provisions and receive their input on the topic. The consultations will help OJJDP develop a policy on how best to collaborate with tribes on the implementation of the Act in FY 2020.

## Research and Data Collection

To help prevent and intervene in juvenile delinquency, OJJDP funds research and data collection on juvenile crime, victimization, and youth involved in the juvenile justice system. In FY 2019, OJJDP transferred \$5.3 million to the National Institute of Justice to fund a variety of juvenile justice and public safety-related research and evaluation projects. The Office also transferred \$1.2 million to the U.S. Census Bureau to continue data collection activities under the biannual **Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement** and the **Juvenile Residential Facility Census**. These data collections provide information about

## Training and Technical Assistance

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) funds training and technical assistance to help organizations better respond to and prevent delinquency and child victimization. In fiscal year 2019, OJJDP continued to support the **National Training and Technical Assistance Center** (NTTAC) as the one-stop shop for accessing OJJDP's training and technical assistance resources and services.

NTTAC manages TTA360, a system that allows OJJDP grantees and the public to submit requests for training and technical assistance. During 2019, TTA360 received more than 1,700 requests on topics such as youth and family engagement, child safety, mentoring, research to practice, and delinquency prevention.

Through NTTAC, OJJDP provided important resources and training to the juvenile justice community and allied professionals, including responses to more than 1,300 inquiries through the OJJDP TTA Help Desk and delivery of virtual trainings and meetings in the form of 67 webinars, which served more than 12,000 participants. Visit [youtube.com/OJPOJJDP](https://www.youtube.com/OJPOJJDP) and select "Playlists" to access recordings of OJJDP webinars.



juveniles in residential placement and the facilities that hold them (see Juveniles in Residential Placement in chapter 4 for more information). OJJDP provided another \$400,000 to the Bureau of Justice Statistics to archive and disseminate the Office’s data at the [National Archive of Criminal Justice Data](#).

## Coordinating Council on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

The Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974, as amended, established the [Coordinating Council on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention](#) as an independent body to coordinate federal programs related to delinquency prevention and missing and exploited children.

The council comprises 9 *ex officio* members, 4 affiliate members, and 10 nonfederal practitioner members named by the President and Congress. The Attorney General is the *ex officio* Chair of the council and the Administrator of OJJDP is the *ex officio* Vice Chair. Other *ex officio* members include the Secretaries of the Departments of Health and Human Services (HHS), Labor, Education, Homeland Security, and Housing and Urban Development; the Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy; and the Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation for National and Community Service.

The four affiliate federal agencies represented on the council include the Departments of Agriculture, Defense, and Interior, through their respective Secretaries and designees; and HHS’ Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, through its Administrator.

The council met four times in 2019 to highlight successful and promising programs and discuss opportunities for cross-agency partnerships and coordination. During the council’s September meeting, Clyde Van Dyke, winner of the 2019 4-H Youth in Action Award, spoke about how the club’s youth mentoring program empowered him to overcome challenges, including the loss of his mother at an early age and a lack of role models for educational success. “I’m proud to say that because of 4-H and the adults who have supported me, I’m not a dropout,” he said. “I graduated from high school in June and just started college at the State University of New York at Delhi to pursue a career in digital forensics—a path I never would have discovered without 4-H.”

Visit [juvenilecouncil.gov](http://juvenilecouncil.gov) for more information.



Clyde Van Dyke received the 2019 4-H Youth in Action Award for his commitment to using technology to support community change. “There really are no words that can fully express my gratitude to OJJDP and 4-H, because my life would have looked very different if I hadn’t been welcomed into the 4-H family.”



# Chapter 2. Intervention

## Drug Courts

Juvenile and family drug treatment courts funded by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) offer a specialized way to respond to the needs of substance-abusing individuals who require targeted interventions. Juvenile drug treatment courts work to address youth's substance abuse and often co-occurring mental health challenges, while family drug courts aim to reduce incidents of child abuse and neglect that result from parental substance use.



In fiscal year (FY) 2019, OJJDP awarded \$3 million to nine jurisdictions under its **Juvenile Drug Treatment Court program**. The funding is helping grantees strengthen family engagement, address the root problems that may cause substance use and addiction, and empower young people to lead drug-free and crime-free lives. OJJDP awarded \$3.5 million to the National Association of Drug Court Professionals to fund training and technical assistance for the courts.

OJJDP awarded approximately \$7 million across 11 sites under its **Family Drug Court program**. The program serves parents and guardians who require treatment for a substance abuse disorder and who are involved with the child welfare system as a result of child abuse, neglect, or other parenting issues. OJJDP awarded \$4.5 million to the Center for Child and Family Futures for training and technical assistance support under the program.

## Opioid Abuse

In FY 2019, OJJDP awarded nearly \$7 million to seven sites under the **Opioid Affected Youth initiative** to develop data-driven responses to opioid abuse. The Office awarded \$1 million to a training and technical assistance provider to support the sites' efforts. OJJDP also awarded \$15 million to mentoring organizations that have a demonstrated partnership with a substance abuse treatment agency to provide services to youth impacted by opioids.

## Guam Family Drug Court Supports Recovery and Reunification

Guam launched the island's first family drug treatment court in November 2017 with funding from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. The Guam Family Recovery Program seeks to strengthen and reunite families by providing collaborative, culturally respectful, and family-centered treatment and services.

In the first 13 months of operation, the program served 10 parents and 32 children, and referrals continue to grow.

"We have witnessed a significant transformation in the parents' behavior," the grantee said. "Parents are holding themselves accountable and are committed to working toward the goal of sobriety and reunification with their children."



The Guam Family Recovery Program team (shown above) consists of attorneys, therapeutic services providers, and staff of the Judiciary of Guam and Child Protective Services. Photo courtesy of Guam Family Recovery Program.

## Community Supervision

Community supervision, also known as probation, is a mechanism used by juvenile justice agencies at many different points in the system. It serves as a disposition for juveniles adjudicated in court and can also play a role in diverting status offenders and other youth from formal court processing. In FY 2019, OJJDP awarded nearly \$3 million to six mentoring organizations that have a demonstrated partnership with a juvenile justice agency. The focus of this program is to provide mentoring services—as part of a diversion approach—to youth who pose a low risk to public safety.

## Reentry

In FY 2019, the Office awarded more than \$11 million to improve outcomes for youth who are transitioning back to their communities following out-of-home placement or confinement.

Under the **Second Chance Act: Youth Offender Reentry program**, OJJDP awarded \$6.7 million to nine sites to support the successful transition of juveniles from residential confinement back into society. The youth will receive educational, vocational, and job placement services while in confinement and following their release. They will also receive substance abuse treatment, assistance locating housing, and help arranging mental and physical healthcare. In March 2019, OJJDP hosted a webinar about the role of family engagement in youth reentry.

The Office also awarded \$4.5 million to support programs within correctional facilities that encourage family engagement between incarcerated parents and their minor children. The grants, awarded to

seven jurisdictions under the **Second Chance Act: Addressing the Needs of Incarcerated Parents and Their Minor Children program**, also fund reentry services for parents and programs that support positive youth development in children of incarcerated parents.

Also in FY 2019, OJJDP released a **video** highlighting a resource for incarcerated youth—**Reentry Starts Here: A Guide for Youth in Long-Term Juvenile Corrections and Treatment Programs**. This award-winning toolkit helps youth set clear goals for reentry while still in placement and highlights methods to help ensure successful reentry into the community.

## Juvenile Indigent Defense

OJJDP provided more than \$1.7 million to three jurisdictions and a training and technical assistance provider in FY 2019 to improve the quality of juvenile indigent defense. Through the **Enhancements for Juvenile Indigent Defense program**, OJJDP is helping to ensure that youth involved with the juvenile justice system have equal access to quality legal representation and resources that address the collateral consequences of system involvement. OJJDP is also funding specialized training for members of the juvenile indigent defense bar, including public defenders and court-appointed counsel.

## OJJDP Convenes Restorative Justice Working Group

An effective restorative justice process holds offenders individually accountable to their victims, and to the community at large, often through face-to-face meetings and reparative actions such as financial restitution to victims, repair of the damaged property, or work for the betterment of the community.

In fiscal year 2019, OJJDP convened a **restorative justice working group** with a goal of developing guidance materials that will help jurisdictions implement successful programs for victims, juvenile offenders, and communities.

“The juvenile justice system as it operates currently is formal... it keeps the offender away from the victim and... keeps the offender from really accepting personal responsibility for his or her criminal conduct,” **said Administrator Harp**. “Restorative justice changes that because it looks at crime as *harm*; harm done by one individual to another. In appropriate cases, and when the victim requests restorative services, the process brings the victim and the offender together, face to face, to take full account of the harm done by the offender and consider how that harm might be repaired.”



OJJDP leadership pictured with members of the Office's restorative justice working group. “Practitioners need guidance on what they can expect to see in a restorative justice process, and what the practical outcomes of the process are,” said Administrator Harp.

# Support for Juvenile Prosecutors

Juvenile prosecutors play an important role with regard to prevention and early intervention. They determine which offenders should be charged, which should be diverted, and which cases should be transferred to adult criminal court. It is important that their work is informed by the most current science and research. In partnership with OJJDP, the National District Attorneys Association developed and piloted “The Role of the Juvenile Prosecutor” on July 31–August 2, 2019. Training topics included the impact of trauma on adolescents, the juvenile sex offender, key considerations in diversion, and the prosecution of serious, violent, and chronic offenders. In her remarks to the attendees, Administrator Harp expressed enthusiasm about OJJDP’s renewed commitment to training juvenile prosecutors and emphasized the juvenile prosecutor’s role in ensuring youth justice and community safety.

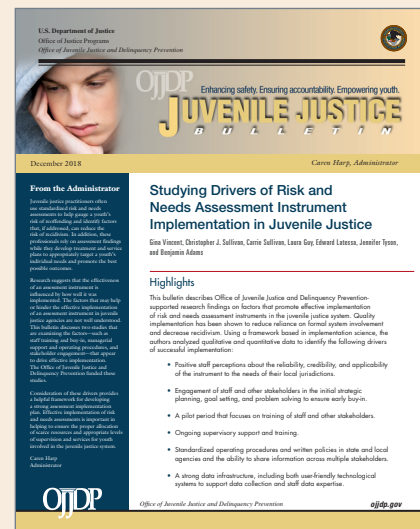
Due to the specialized nature of juvenile court proceedings, state prosecutors who are tasked with prosecuting juveniles often encounter challenges that are vastly different from those associated with the prosecution of adults. In FY 2019, OJJDP provided more than \$1.5 million under the **Addressing the Training Needs of Juvenile Prosecutors program** to strengthen training and professional development that are tailored to the specific needs of juvenile prosecutors and their staff. The award is also funding a national training and technical assistance provider to enhance prosecutors’ abilities to lead juvenile justice system improvements within their communities. The training is helping prosecutors design and implement proven strategies to reduce offending and improve outcomes for youth and communities.

## Implementing Effective Risk and Needs Assessments for Youth

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) released ***Studying Drivers of Risk and Needs Assessment Instrument Implementation in Juvenile Justice*** in December 2018.

The bulletin examines findings from two OJJDP-sponsored studies. The researchers identified factors, such as buy-in from frontline staff, training and supervisory oversight, regular booster trainings, ongoing quality assurance processes, and early stakeholder engagement as contributors to the successful implementation of risk and needs assessments. These assessments are important tools for improving public safety because they can determine which youth are at the greatest risk of reoffending and identify individual youth needs that can be addressed through intervention and services.

Access this and other OJJDP publications by visiting [ojjdp.ojp.gov/library/publications/list](http://ojjdp.ojp.gov/library/publications/list).



# Connecting With the Field

## Fiscal Year 2019 Highlights

In fiscal year 2019, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) provided timely and reliable information to help juvenile justice practitioners prevent and respond to delinquency and child victimization. Connecting with the field ensures that vital information and resources reach the people who are working to make a difference in the lives of youth.

Select training and technical assistance and communications efforts are highlighted below. For more information, visit [ojjdp.ojp.gov](http://ojjdp.ojp.gov).

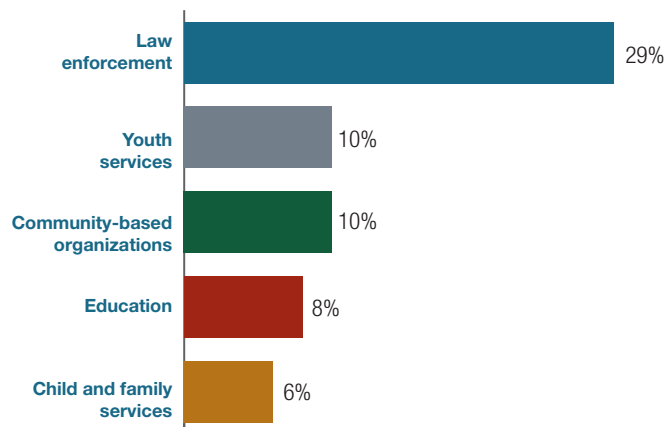


### Training and Technical Assistance

In fiscal year 2019—

- OJJDP received 1,836 requests for training and technical assistance via TTA360, OJJDP’s user-friendly online request system. Each of the 50 states submitted requests, as did the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Guam.
- The three most requested training and technical assistance topics were mentoring (41 percent), child safety (28 percent), and youth and family engagement (16 percent).
- OJJDP delivered 894 trainings, including 279 webinars. More than 13,500 professionals participated in the webinars, which were designed to keep researchers, practitioners, and policymakers up to date on trends in the field.

### Top Five Requesting Entities

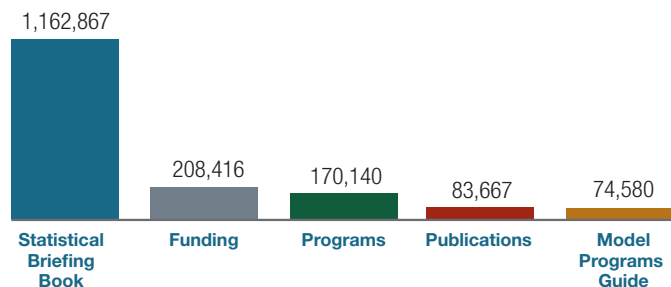


### Digital Outreach

In fiscal year 2019—

- More than 25,643 juvenile justice and child protection professionals were subscribed to *OJJDP News @ a Glance*, the Office’s award-winning e-newsletter.
- OJJDP shared up-to-date information with its 6,478 Twitter and 5,249 Facebook followers.
- Approximately 21,100 subscribers received e-mails through OJJDP’s JUVJUST listserv with announcements of publications, research findings, funding opportunities, and upcoming events.

### Topics of Interest to OJJDP’s Constituents, by Webpage Views



# Connecting With the Field

## Fiscal Year 2019 Highlights



### Communications Releases

In fiscal year 2019, OJJDP—

- Released six issues of the *OJJDP News @ a Glance* e-newsletter, along with the following publications:
  - » *Key Amendments to the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act Made by the Juvenile Justice Reform Act of 2018* (Fact Sheet)
  - » *Implementation of the Ashlynnne Mike AMBER Alert in Indian Country Act of 2018: A Report to Congress* (Report)
  - » *Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention: 2018 Annual Report* (Report)
  - » *AMBER Alert Field Guide for Law Enforcement Officers* (Report)
  - » *AMBER Alert Best Practices Guide, Second Edition* (Report)
  - » *Studying Drivers of Risk and Needs Assessment Instrument Implementation in Juvenile Justice* (Bulletin)
  - » *Girls in the Juvenile Justice System* (Bulletin)
  - » *Delinquency Cases in Juvenile Court, 2017* (Fact Sheet)
  - » *Juvenile Arrests, 2017* (Bulletin)
  - » *Juvenile Residential Facility Census 2016: Selected Findings* (Bulletin)
- Issued data snapshots—visually compelling, one-page research highlights—on:
  - » Characteristics and Trends of Youth Victims of Suicide and Homicide
  - » Characteristics and Trends of Delinquency Cases Resulting in Probation
  - » Characteristics of Cases Judicially Waived from Juvenile to Criminal Court
  - » Trends and Characteristics of Youth in Residential Placement, 2017
  - » Characteristics of Delinquency Cases Handled in Juvenile Court in 2017
  - » Arrest Characteristics of Older Juveniles and Young Adults
- Posted the following blogs:
  - » Visiting Our Partners at the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children
  - » Partnering to Support Families, Safeguard Children
  - » Parents, School Staff Should Look for Signs of Bullying Among Youth
  - » OJJDP Provides Second Chance Resources for Youth, Communities



### Achievements in Communications

In fiscal year 2019, OJJDP received—

- Two Awards for Publications Excellence from Communications Concepts, Inc.
- A Communicator award from the Academy of Interactive & Visual Arts.



# Chapter 3. Special Victims and Violent Offenders

## Missing and Exploited Children

The **National Center for Missing & Exploited Children** (NCMEC) is an information clearinghouse and resource for families of missing and exploited children and the professionals who serve them. The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) has supported the center since its inception in 1984.



In fiscal year (FY) 2019, OJJDP awarded NCMEC more than \$33.5 million to support its activities. The center received an additional \$6 million through an interagency agreement between OJJDP and the U.S. Secret Service.

NCMEC operates a 24-hour, toll-free Missing Children’s Hotline at 800–THE–LOST; the CyberTipline, a centralized reporting mechanism for public and electronic service providers to report instances of apparent child sexual exploitation; and the Child Victim Identification Program (CVIP), which serves as the central U.S. repository for information related to child victims depicted in sexually exploitive images and videos.

During FY 2019, NCMEC helped to resolve cases involving 27,577 children who were reported missing. NCMEC’s call center received 156,760 calls and its CyberTipline received and made available to law enforcement 15,304,197 reports regarding child sexual exploitation or online harm to children. Law enforcement officials worked with NCMEC to identify 2,409 child pornography victims, who were documented in the center’s CVIP system.

## National Missing Children’s Day

On May 22, 2019, federal and law enforcement officials, policymakers, child advocates, and friends and families of missing children gathered at the Department of Justice (DOJ) to commemorate **National Missing Children’s Day**. Organized by OJJDP, the annual ceremony honors the efforts that law enforcement personnel and private citizens make to recover missing and abducted children. Senior DOJ officials presented the following awards at the ceremony:

- **Attorney General's Special Commendation.**

Detective Szczepanik of the Broward County (FL) Sheriff's Office and the South Florida Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force received this award for her investigation into a person suspected of viewing and sharing child pornography online. The investigation led to the discovery of thousands of images and videos of child victims and the identification of additional child pornographers. Three suspects were prosecuted and received prison sentences.



"We are here today remembering those sons and daughters, and brothers and sisters who have not come home," said Administrator Harp at the 2019 National Missing Children's Day Ceremony. "Anyone, at any time, can make the difference in the safe recovery of a missing and exploited child."

- **Missing Children's Law Enforcement**

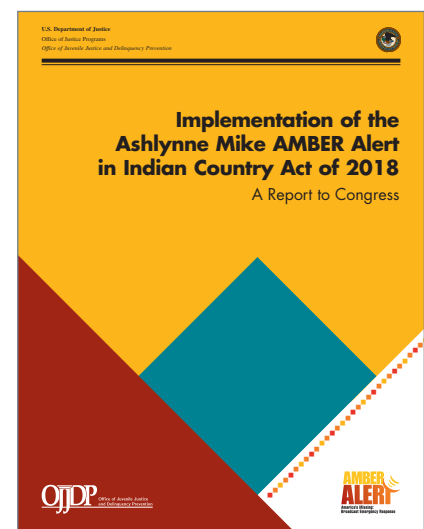
**Award.** This award was presented to six members of the Round Rock (TX) Police Department, three special agents from the San Antonio FBI Field Office, and a Texas Ranger who collaboratively investigated and tracked down a suspect who kidnapped two sisters from their home in Round Rock. The girls were found unharmed 700 miles away.

- **Missing Children's Child Protection Award.** Detective Hirota and five other members of the Sacramento Valley (CA) High Tech Crimes Task Force received this award for leading an investigation that resulted in the arrest of a man who abused his foster children and produced child pornography.
- **Missing Children's Citizen Award.** Firefighters Aaron Woods and Michael Webb of the Blount County (TN) Fire Department led a 7-hour portion of a 22-hour search across 2,000 acres of rugged, wooded terrain to find a 6-year-old boy and his dog less than 24 hours after they were reported missing.

## AMBER Alert Program

The **AMBER Alert program** is a voluntary partnership between law enforcement agencies, broadcasters, and the wireless industry to activate an urgent bulletin in the most serious child abduction cases. OJJDP engages numerous partners to support the program, including NCMEC, federal law enforcement agencies, wireless carriers, Internet service providers, and social media outlets.

In FY 2019, OJJDP awarded \$4.4 million to fund the **AMBER Alert Training and Technical Assistance Program** to help the AMBER Alert network improve law enforcement's response to abducted children and encourage public participation in their recovery. This amount reflects \$1.5 million dedicated to improving capacity within American Indian and Alaska Native communities to respond to



endangered missing and abducted children and to carry out the provisions of the Ashlynnne Mike AMBER Alert in Indian Country Act of 2018. The law provides for the formal integration of tribal AMBER Alert systems into state AMBER Alert systems and makes tribes eligible for AMBER Alert grants.

Released in FY 2019, OJJDP's *Implementation of the Ashlynnne Mike AMBER Alert in Indian Country Act of 2018: A Report to Congress* highlights the results of a national assessment of tribes' readiness, education and training needs, technological challenges, and obstacles encountered in the integration of AMBER Alert plans. The assessment revealed shortages of critical resources—such as staffing, training in the investigation of child abductions, access to criminal justice information systems, and infrastructure—that would support the tribes' full participation in AMBER Alert. The assessment also revealed that tribes are committed to bringing AMBER Alert to their communities despite these challenges.

To help tribes implement the Act's provisions and improve their response to cases of missing and abducted children, OJJDP launched the **AMBER Alert in Indian Country website** in FY 2019. The site provides one-stop access to training, technical assistance, and child protection resources for tribal law enforcement, public safety professionals, and others working with issues surrounding endangered, missing, and abducted children.

On July 30–August 1, 2019, the Office convened the inaugural National AMBER Alert in Indian Country Symposium in New Mexico. The event brought together tribal leaders, state AMBER Alert coordinators, public safety officials, and federal representatives to exchange information about implementing AMBER Alert plans in Indian country.

Earlier in the year, OJJDP convened a 3-day National AMBER Alert Symposium attended by AMBER Alert coordinators, Missing Persons Clearinghouse managers, and Child Abduction Response Team members from across the United States, Mexico, and Canada.



Pamela Foster (left), mother of Ashlynnne Mike and advocate for missing children, with OJJDP Deputy Administrator Chyrl Jones at the National AMBER Alert in Indian Country Symposium.

Both symposiums allowed participants to share best practices to improve the nation's response to missing and exploited children and learn about available resources.

The AMBER Alert system is used in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, areas within Indian country, and internationally in 27 countries. As of the end of 2019, a total of 977 children had been successfully recovered through the AMBER Alert program.

Visit [amberalert.ojp.gov](https://amberalert.ojp.gov) for more information.

## AMBER Alert Guides

*AMBER Alert Best Practices* provides law enforcement and other first responders with comprehensive, best-practice recommendations for field operations. This second edition guide also describes recent developments in technology and social media and highlights the importance of training and readiness as well as strategic partnerships.

The companion guide, *AMBER Alert Field Guide for Law Enforcement Officers*, offers recommended practices in key areas of agency response, including the initial onscene response and investigation, the use of child abduction response teams, and search and recovery operations.



## Technology-Facilitated Crimes Against Children

Predators searching online for unsupervised contact with minors present a significant threat to the safety of young people and a formidable challenge for law enforcement officials who must adapt their investigative techniques to a constantly evolving array of technology.

### Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force Program

OJJDP's **Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force program** comprises 61 task forces representing more than 4,500 federal, state, and local law enforcement and prosecutorial agencies throughout the 50 states. OJJDP launched the program in 1998 to help federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies enhance their investigative responses to offenders who use the Internet, online communication systems, or computer technology to exploit children.

To date, ICAC task forces have reviewed more than 973,000 reports of online child exploitation, resulting in the arrest of more than 100,500 individuals. Since the program's inception, nearly 742,000 law enforcement officers, prosecutors, and other professionals have been trained on techniques to investigate and prosecute ICAC-related cases. In FY 2019 alone, the task forces conducted more than 82,000 investigations of technology-facilitated crimes against children. The task forces also continued to focus on public awareness and education, making more than 12,500 presentations on Internet safety in 2019 that reached an estimated 1.3 million people.

In FY 2019, OJJDP provided nearly \$30 million to fund the activities of the national network of multiagency, multijurisdictional task forces. The Office also funded training and technical assistance to support the task forces. OJJDP awarded \$4 million under the **ICAC Task Force Training program**

and provided \$1.86 million to Fox Valley Technical College to deliver topical webinars, provide onsite technical assistance, and help the task forces achieve the goals of the National Strategy on Child Exploitation Prevention and Interdiction. Additional ICAC awards included \$600,000 each to three jurisdictions under the **ICAC Forensic Hiring Capacity Program for Wounded Veterans**.

Through the ICAC program, OJJDP supported almost 2,700 regional law enforcement trainings on child exploitation in FY 2019. More than 58,000 people attended these regional events, which provided a forum for information sharing and collaboration among federal, state, tribal, and local agencies to combat technology-facilitated crimes against children.

OJJDP convened three ICAC Task Force Commanders meetings in FY 2019. The Office provides training on current trends and technologies, programmatic updates, and resources to the task forces during these convenings. At the September meeting, Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General Katharine T. Sullivan emphasized to the attendees how vital the ICAC program is to the Justice Department's public safety mission and outlined the Department's FY 2019 financial commitment to the task forces. Ms. Sullivan noted that the ICAC task forces received 88 percent of all domestic CyberTips that were submitted to U.S. law enforcement in the previous year.

## National Law Enforcement Training on Child Exploitation

In June 2019, OJJDP convened a National Law Enforcement Training on Child Exploitation. This specialized training expands the knowledge base of law enforcement, prosecutors, and digital forensic examiners who investigate or prosecute technology-facilitated crimes against children.

More than 1,600 participants attended the event from across the United States, three U.S. territories, the Netherlands, Canada, India, Thailand, Vietnam, and Australia.

## Operation Broken Heart

Each year, OJJDP's Internet Crimes Against Children task forces lead a nationwide investigative effort called Operation Broken Heart. The operation targets suspects who produce, distribute, receive, and possess child pornography; engage in online enticement of children for sexual purposes; engage in the sex trafficking of children; and travel across state lines or to foreign countries and sexually abuse children.

Conducted in April and May 2019 by the 61 ICAC task forces, Operation Broken Heart investigated more than 18,500 reports of technology-facilitated crimes against children, resulting in the arrest of nearly 1,700 suspected online child sex offenders. The task forces identified 308 offenders who either produced child pornography or committed child sexual abuse, and more than 357 children who suffered sexual abuse or were exploited in the production of child pornography.



Most of the 155 presenters at the National Law Enforcement Training on Child Exploitation are active practitioners in the fight against child exploitation. Popular workshop topics included Online Resources for ICAC Investigators, Facebook and Law Enforcement, and e-Chat and Child Exploitation.

The 3-day training offered approximately 150 unique workshops, including 45 computer labs on topics such as emerging investigative strategies, legal issues, identifying and working with victims, understanding predatory behaviors, officer wellness and safety, and more.

## Child Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation

OJJDP is dedicated to combating commercial child sexual exploitation and trafficking and addressing the unique needs of young victims. Grants of approximately \$4 million are helping nine organizations provide comprehensive support services and interventions for victims of child sexual exploitation, domestic sex trafficking, or labor trafficking. The awards were made under OJJDP's **Specialized Services and Mentoring for Child and Youth Victims of Sex Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation program**.

Approximately \$1.8 million under this program is targeted to provide services to girls who have been or are at risk of being victimized. The funding will support prevention and early intervention strategies such as mentoring and trauma-informed screening, and enhance reentry strategies to put vulnerable girls on a path toward success. Part of the funding is also dedicated to ensure that boys who are victims of child sex trafficking, sexual exploitation, and labor trafficking receive services that are responsive to their needs.

OJJDP awarded \$750,000 to Youth Collaboratory to provide training and technical assistance to the nine grantees.

In FY 2019, OJJDP awarded \$3.5 million to NCMEC to help review CyberTipline reports of child sex trafficking, respond to information regarding the location of missing children who are at high risk of or are involved in trafficking, and provide training and technical assistance on trauma-informed responses to victims.

The Office awarded an additional \$2.5 million under the **Strengthening Investigative Tools and Technology for Combating Child Sexual Exploitation program** to three organizations to develop, refine, and advance the use of investigative tools, methods, and technologies that address child pornography, exploitation, and sex trafficking.

OJJDP continued to support the National Judicial Institute on Domestic Child Sex Trafficking in FY 2019. Hosted by the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, the institute helps judicial officers better understand the applicable laws and legal considerations involving trafficking victims, how to identify trafficked and at-risk children, and how to connect them to appropriate services. The institute is held several times a year.

The OJJDP-sponsored National Criminal Justice Training Center also hosted several trainings in FY 2019 to help practitioners understand, recognize, and investigate cases involving child sex trafficking and exploitation. Training topics included the multidisciplinary team response to child sex trafficking, child sex trafficking forensic interviewing, and the law enforcement investigative response to child sex trafficking.

## Youth Collaboratory

Youth Collaboratory, with funding from OJJDP and in partnership with the Center for Combating Human Trafficking at Wichita State University (Kansas), provides training and technical assistance to organizations that are working with young victims of commercial sexual exploitation and domestic sex trafficking. The organization aims to increase providers' capacity to identify and enroll youth who are in need of services and to develop mentoring services and training that address the needs of these youth.

With support from OJJDP, the organization recently launched its Youth Catalyst Team. Young people with direct experience navigating systems serve as paid consultants to inform the work of Youth Collaboratory. Because of their firsthand knowledge, these youth leaders are skilled at identifying strengths, gaps, barriers, and solutions to improve practices and effect change. The Youth Catalyst Team has provided input on a national sex trafficking awareness campaign, contributed to the OJJDP-sponsored toolkit **Shining Light on the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children**, and presented at trainings and conferences.

## Victims of Child Abuse Act Program

OJJDP's Victims of Child Abuse (VOCA) Act program consists of several components that maximize the impact of victim services and ensure that professionals have access to training and resources to improve outcomes for affected children and families. The following initiatives are part of the VOCA suite of programs.

### Children's Advocacy Centers

Proclaiming April 2019 as **National Child Abuse Prevention Month**, President Donald Trump called on "all Americans to invest in the lives of our nation's children, to be aware of their safety and well-being, and to support efforts that promote their psychological, physical, and emotional development."

OJJDP continues to invest in the important work of children's advocacy centers (CACs) to ensure better outcomes for child abuse victims and their families. These centers promote evidence-based practices and a multidisciplinary approach to child abuse investigation, assessment, intervention, and prosecution.

In FY 2019, OJJDP awarded \$10.8 million to the **National Children's Alliance** to fund local children's advocacy centers, state chapters, and multidisciplinary teams that investigate and respond to child abuse. OJJDP provided an additional \$2 million to the National Children's Alliance to fund services for victims of child pornography, and \$1 million to address cases of child abuse on U.S. military installations.

The Office also awarded \$5 million under the **VOCA Regional Children's Advocacy Centers program** to continue operations at four regional centers. In FY 2019, the regional centers offered onsite technical assistance and in-depth training on forensic interviews, victim advocacy, multidisciplinary teams, and vicarious trauma, among other topics.

The National Children’s Alliance manages an OJJDP-funded national membership and accreditation program to ensure that children’s advocacy centers across the United States meet the national standards.

In June 2019, the National Children’s Alliance hosted its annual leadership conference. The conference, attended by OJJDP staff, provided continuing education, networking opportunities, and exposure to innovative programs for about 700 administrators, coordinators, and board members of children’s advocacy centers and CAC chapters. Sessions explored the provision of mental health services in rural communities, reduction of vicarious trauma, the prosecutor’s role in the multidisciplinary team, and family engagement.

VOCA funding also supports two specialized training and technical assistance programs that coordinate closely with the regional CACs and the National Children’s Alliance. OJJDP provided \$2.4 million to the Zero Abuse Project under the **VOCA Training and Technical Assistance for Child Abuse Prosecutors program** to enhance the effectiveness of the attorneys and others who investigate and prosecute child abuse cases. The National Children’s Advocacy Center received \$800,000 to provide training, technical assistance, and information resources to improve the judicial system’s handling of child abuse and neglect cases.

## Court Appointed Special Advocates

The **National Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Association**, together with its state and local member programs, supports and promotes court appointed volunteer advocacy on behalf of abused and neglected children involved in dependency proceedings. CASA volunteers help ensure that these children do not get lost in the legal or social service systems and that they are placed in safe, permanent homes.

In FY 2019, OJJDP awarded nearly \$10.7 million to the National CASA Association to expand the national membership and accreditation program for state and local CASA programs. The funding is also used to provide resources and training and technical assistance to volunteer advocates and other child welfare system stakeholders across the nation.

In June 2019, staff and volunteers from the association’s network of nearly 950 programs gathered for a national conference in Atlanta, GA. The attendees also included social workers, judges, staff of youth service agencies, and researchers. The event featured presentations on trauma-informed systems of care, mitigation of the effects of addiction within the family, and advocacy for children with incarcerated parents.

During 2019, OJJDP-supported state and local CASA programs across 49 states and the District of Columbia served more than 271,000 abused and neglected children.

## Child Abuse Training Programs for Judicial and Court Personnel

Courts and child welfare agencies face significant challenges in managing complex child abuse, neglect, and related cases as well as heavy caseloads. They must also comply with federal child



welfare reform laws and initiatives to achieve safe, permanent placements for abused and neglected children. Through a \$2.7 million award to the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, OJJDP is providing judicial, legal, and social service professionals with training and technical assistance to enhance their understanding of child abuse cases, including cases of children who are victims of commercial sexual exploitation and sex trafficking, and families impacted by opioids. The training is also helping professionals coordinate information and services across the juvenile justice and child welfare systems.

## Youth Gangs

Gang violence continues to have a significant adverse impact on youth, families, and communities across America. In FY 2019, OJJDP awarded \$7.4 million to support communities as they work to deter and suppress gang activity and provide services and treatment to victims of gang-related violence and crime.

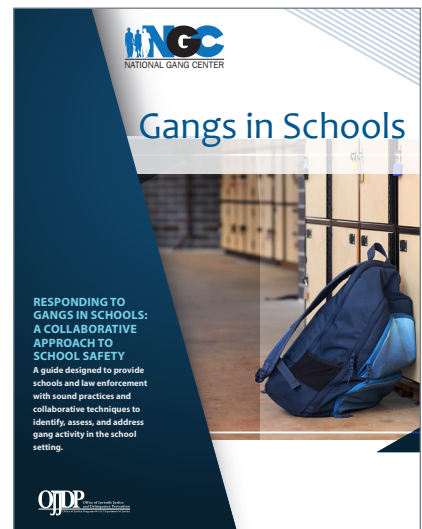
Through its **Youth Gang Desistance/Diversion program**, the Office provided \$2 million to communities to support desistance and diversion activities as well as targeted services such as life skills training, substance abuse counseling, mentoring, and street outreach for gang members who want to desist from gang activity.

OJJDP awarded nearly \$1.4 million under the **Youth Gang Suppression Implementation program** to help jurisdictions establish a coordinated, multidisciplinary approach to suppressing youth gangs. Both programs require grantees to implement one or more components of the evidence-based **OJJDP Comprehensive Gang Model** as part of their response to gang violence and crime within their jurisdictions.

The Office's **Supporting Victims of Gang Violence program** promotes justice and healing for young victims and witnesses of gang violence. Awards totaling nearly \$3.2 million are making victim assistance services available to ensure that youth are not traumatized further and have adequate supports to feel safe in their communities.

The **National Gang Center (NGC)**, funded by OJJDP, provides leadership, information, training, and technical assistance on comprehensive, community-based, anti-gang initiatives. In FY 2019, the Office provided more than \$830,000 in funding to continue the center's work.

Because schools are an important part of community efforts to combat gang activity, OJJDP and NGC released **Gangs in Schools**, which discusses how to create a safety plan to prevent and disrupt gangs in schools. The guide recommends that law enforcement,



school administrators and staff, and other key sectors of the community work together to develop a comprehensive plan that identifies effective, evidence-based strategies to address gang issues in the school environment.

In August 2019, OJJDP and NGC presented “Responding to Gangs in Schools: Creating a Collaborative Process Between Schools and Law Enforcement.” The webinar discussed the importance of responding to gangs in a school setting, the specific roles of law enforcement and school administrators in developing partnerships to ensure school safety, and strategies to foster and sustain these partnerships. A followup webinar provided an overview of common gang identifiers and emphasized the importance of information sharing between school personnel and local law enforcement.

## **Adolescent Sex Offenders and Children With Sexual Behavior Problems**

OJJDP’s **Supporting Effective Interventions for Adolescent Sex Offenders and Children With Sexual Behavior Problems program** is designed to prevent sexual reoffending among youth, promote healing, and provide services for victims and their families. In FY 2019, the Office awarded more than \$1.9 million to three project sites and the University of Oklahoma’s National Center on the Sexual Behavior of Youth to provide training and technical assistance to the sites. Project sites will provide intervention and supervision services for adolescent sex offenders and children with sexual behavior problems as well as treatment services for their child victims and families.

OJJDP awarded an additional \$1.5 million to initiate a training and technical assistance project with the U.S. military. The project will address problematic or illegal sexual behaviors among youth on military bases. The University of Oklahoma’s Health Sciences Center will develop guidelines for a multidisciplinary response to youth with sexual behavior problems and provide clinical training.

# Chapter 4. State Relations and Assistance

## Title II Formula Grants Program

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) provides formula grants to states to support their delinquency prevention and juvenile justice system improvement efforts. In fiscal year (FY) 2019, the Office awarded approximately \$37.5 million in formula grants to designated state agencies through the Formula Grants program under Title II of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act.



To receive Title II funding in FY 2019, states had to maintain an adequate compliance monitoring system and have a functional state advisory group whose composition satisfied the membership requirement stipulated by the JJDP Act. State advisory groups provide input on their state's use of Title II funds. The groups are also responsible for supporting compliance with the four core requirements of the Act.

The core requirements obligate participating states to (1) deinstitutionalize status offenders, (2) separate juveniles from adult inmates in secure facilities, (3) remove juveniles from adult jails and lockups, and (4) address disproportionate minority contact (DMC) in their juvenile justice systems.

State-by-state **compliance status** from fiscal years 2006 to 2019, and FY 2019 **compliance determination standards** can be viewed on the OJJDP website. States' eligibility and compliance status in FY 2019 are also provided in the appendix of this report.

The Office redesigned its website in FY 2019 to provide stakeholders with a simplified and more user-friendly experience. The website now features state support webpages that allow state representatives to view Title II funding determinations, learn whether a state or territory participates in the Formula Grants program, and access 3-year state plans. In addition to compliance information, the webpages also provide DMC data, performance measures, and a list of active formula and discretionary awards for each state and territory. Visit [ojjdp.ojp.gov](http://ojjdp.ojp.gov) for more information.

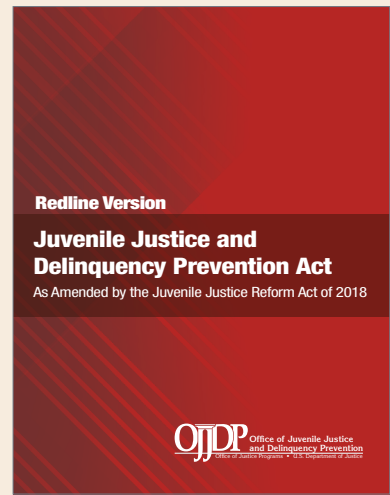
## Juvenile Justice Reform Act: Implementation Resources

Congress enacted the **Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act** in 1974. This landmark legislation established the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) to support local and state efforts to prevent delinquency and improve the juvenile justice system. In December 2018, the **Juvenile Justice Reform Act** (JJRA) was signed into law, reauthorizing and substantially amending the original Act. The JJRA became effective on October 1, 2019.

The new Act grants the OJJDP Administrator the authority to increase the minimum allocation to states participating in the Formula Grants program, adds program areas states may support with formula grant funds, and includes new protections for youth who are charged and tried as adults. The Act also adds more stringent requirements for detaining low-level, nonviolent offenders who have violated a court order.

OJJDP made a variety of resources available in 2019 to help states understand their obligations under the new legislation. In February 2019, Administrator Harp led a webinar discussion for state representatives during which she outlined pertinent changes introduced by the JJRA. Staff from OJJDP's State Relations and Assistance Division also provided in-person support to state advisory groups regarding JJRA implementation. Other resources provided include a **redline document** that allows users to closely track changes implemented by the JJRA and a **fact sheet** that describes the Act's major components, such as annual reporting requirements, state allocations, state plan requirements, and the status of funds not allocated due to state noncompliance.

In September 2019, approximately 200 people participated in OJJDP's **National Training Conference**. Organized by the Office's State Relations and Assistance Division, the conference featured workshops to help states understand the requirements of the new legislation. Feedback gathered during and after the conference is helping OJJDP tailor additional support to the field.



In FY 2019, OJJDP awarded nearly \$5.8 million to the American Institutes for Research to support the Center for Coordinated Assistance to States. The center provides training and technical assistance to states to ensure that their prevention, intervention, and juvenile justice system improvement activities comply with the core requirements.

### State Monitoring and Training

In addition to the funds awarded to designated state agencies in FY 2019, OJJDP conducted site visits, provided technical assistance, and sponsored training to help states prevent delinquency and maintain or achieve compliance with the core requirements of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act.

OJJDP's new application process ensures that assessments of basic grant eligibility—in particular, whether each state has satisfied all state plan requirements for receiving a formula grant award—occur early in the award cycle. This revised schedule provides additional time for states to address potential deficiencies well in advance of OJJDP's year-end deadline for awarding Title II funds. It also serves as an important opportunity for OJJDP staff to review and assess technical assistance needs with state officials.

In November 2018 and again in September 2019, the Office hosted comprehensive training conferences for state representatives. Attendees included compliance monitors, DMC coordinators, juvenile justice specialists, state advisory group members, Federal Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice members, and federal partners.

These conferences included interactive discussions, panels, and workshops to enhance state and territory implementation of OJJDP's Title II Formula Grants program, and included sessions tailored specifically for compliance and DMC staff to help them better understand the core requirements and their roles and responsibilities.



During the 3-day training for state representatives in September 2019, Administrator Harp and staff from the Office's State Relations and Assistance Division led sessions on key provisions under the Juvenile Justice Reform Act, including new expectations regarding juveniles handled in adult court, the use of the valid court order exception, and an effective system of monitoring for compliance with the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act.

## Outcomes

OJJDP's formula grants help states ensure that youth who come in contact with the juvenile justice system are redirected onto positive paths. One of the key goals of the program is to achieve changes in targeted behaviors such as GED completion, school attendance, improved self-esteem, gang resistance, stronger family relationships, and other areas vital to positive youth development. All recipients of OJJDP formula grant funding are required to collect and report performance measurement data that track the results of funded activities, including changes in targeted behaviors.

In 2019, states and territories used formula grant funding to positively impact the lives of young people who come into contact with the juvenile justice system. Some examples include:

- Virginia funded a local human trafficking program that received the 2019 National Criminal Justice Association Outstanding Criminal Justice program award. The program promoted community collaboration, wraparound supports for families and victims, and ongoing training for school personnel.
- Colorado's grant funds helped support Effective Police Interactions with Youth, an evidence-based law enforcement training program. Using a train-the-trainer model, the state has trained 22 law enforcement officers to deliver the program, which is designed to increase the likelihood that police-youth interactions will have positive outcomes for youth.

- Louisiana supported training for school resource officers that addressed legal issues relating to the school environment and current trends in youth culture. The state also hosted a conference on juvenile justice that highlighted best practices and promising programs; more than 400 juvenile justice professionals attended the conference.
- Kentucky funded 6 community programs to provide preventive services benefiting 644 youth; the programs are designed to reduce the rate of entry into the juvenile justice system. Services included mentoring; individual, group, and family counseling; and art and music programs.
- Massachusetts used grant funds to purchase and install screens and cameras in several court holding facilities to mitigate sight and sound separation violations between juvenile and adult detainees.

## Disproportionate Minority Contact

To simplify DMC data-collection requirements, OJJDP implemented a **streamlined application process** in FY 2019. OJJDP asked states to identify how they define success with their DMC-reduction efforts and to evaluate the outcome of their DMC plans to assess what impact, if any, the plans had on disproportionality. To ensure transparency and accountability, OJJDP shares states' self-identified goals, action plans, and outcomes on its website. The approach emphasizes increased technical assistance to help state, local, and tribal governments implement DMC-reduction programs.

## Native American Pass-Through Funding

Pass-through funds are funds issued by a federal agency to a state agency or institution that are then transferred to other state agencies, units of local government, or other eligible groups. Each year, states and territories pass funds through to tribes under the Title II Formula Grants program to support their juvenile justice and delinquency prevention activities. The amount of pass-through funding is based on the number of juveniles that live on tribal lands. To be eligible for pass-through funding, a tribe must be federally recognized and must have a law enforcement function.

During 2019, OJJDP began working with its federal partners to update the process and methodology for calculating tribal pass-through funding under the Formula Grants program. As a result of collaborations with the Justice Department's Office of Tribal Justice, the Department of the Interior's Bureau of Indian Affairs, and the Census Bureau, OJJDP anticipates securing an updated list of federally recognized tribes with law enforcement functions and access to the latest data on juveniles living on those tribal lands by state and territory. The updated methodology will be implemented in FY 2020.

In FY 2019, awards totaling \$287,204 were passed through to federally recognized tribes under the Formula Grants program. Visit the OJJDP website for **Native American pass-through funding by state and territory** for fiscal years 2015 to 2019.

## Nonparticipating States Program

OJJDP's **Nonparticipating States program** provides funds for nonprofit organizations in states that have chosen not to participate or that have been found ineligible to participate in the Title II Formula Grants program. A state may be deemed ineligible to participate in the program if OJJDP determines that it has failed to satisfy the 28 state plan requirements described in the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act.

OJJDP estimates that four grant awards will be made under the FY 2019 Nonparticipating States program to private nonprofit and local public agencies in Connecticut, Nebraska, Texas, and Wyoming. The funds, totaling nearly \$2 million, will be used to support the states' compliance with the four core requirements of the Act.

## Eliminating Prison Rape

The purpose of the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 is to “provide for the analysis of the incidence and effects of prison rape in federal, state, and local institutions and to provide information, resources, recommendations, and funding to protect individuals from prison rape” (Public Law 108–79).

States that do not comply with the Act's requirements are assessed a 5-percent penalty against their OJJDP-administered formula grant funds. In FY 2019, the Department of Justice reallocated these funds to be used specifically for compliance purposes. Under the guidance for the Prison Rape Elimination Act Reallocation program, OJJDP awarded nearly \$320,000 to 16 jurisdictions to help state and local governments bring their facilities into compliance with the Act's requirements.

## Federal Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice

The **Federal Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice**, established by the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act, is supported by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP). The committee is made up of appointed representatives from the nation's state advisory groups and advises the President, Congress, and the OJJDP Administrator on juvenile justice issues and concerns. The committee meets up to four times a year; all meetings are open to the public.

During the March 2019 meeting, Administrator Harp welcomed new members and led discussions about OJJDP appropriations, the Juvenile Justice Reform Act, and issues facing state and local jurisdictions. Three subcommittees were established to address vital issues: Educating the Field, Facilitating Compliance With the Juvenile Justice Reform Act, and Special Topics.

Administrator Harp noted that the group's feedback is essential to OJJDP's work to protect communities, bring justice to victims, and hold youth appropriately accountable for their actions.



## Dual System Youth

Youth who have been involved with both the child welfare and juvenile justice systems—commonly known as dual system youth—often are not recognized and do not receive services targeted to their individual needs because of challenges in cross-system communication and collaboration. In an effort to address these challenges, in 2015 OJJDP launched a data collection and analysis project, the [Dual System Youth Design Study](#).

The researchers released a summary of findings in March 2019. They found that the top three practices used in developing cross-system collaboration were early identification of dual involvement, improved information sharing across the child welfare and juvenile justice systems, and coordinated case supervision across the two systems. Positive outcomes among jurisdictions using these collaborative practices included fewer petitions at the 9-month followup and increased youth involvement in prosocial activities.

One of the goals of the Dual System Youth Design Study was to propose a method for developing a national estimate. The researchers concluded that the best way to accomplish this goal is to use linked data from a representative sample of states and jurisdictions (a sample that can be generalized to create an accurate national estimate). The inconsistent quality of child welfare data and the limited availability of juvenile justice data across states and jurisdictions present a major challenge to achieving this goal. The study includes specific recommendations for systematically assessing the quality and availability of child welfare and juvenile justice data, and using this knowledge to derive a representative sample.

More information on the [study findings](#) is available on the website of the OJJDP-supported National Criminal Justice Reference Service.

## Juveniles in Residential Placement

OJJDP conducts statistical data collections to monitor trends related to youth in residential placement. The 2017 Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement<sup>1</sup> and the [2016 Juvenile Residential Facility Census](#) provided valuable information about juveniles in residential placement and the facilities that hold them.

### Facility Types

These data collections include a wide range of facility types—secure, nonsecure, publicly operated (state and local), and privately operated (including long- and short-term holding). In 2017, local facilities (those staffed by county, city, or municipal employees) held 38 percent, state facilities held 33 percent, and private facilities held 29 percent of all juveniles in residential placement.

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<sup>1</sup> Hockenberry, S. Forthcoming. *Juveniles in Residential Placement, 2017*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

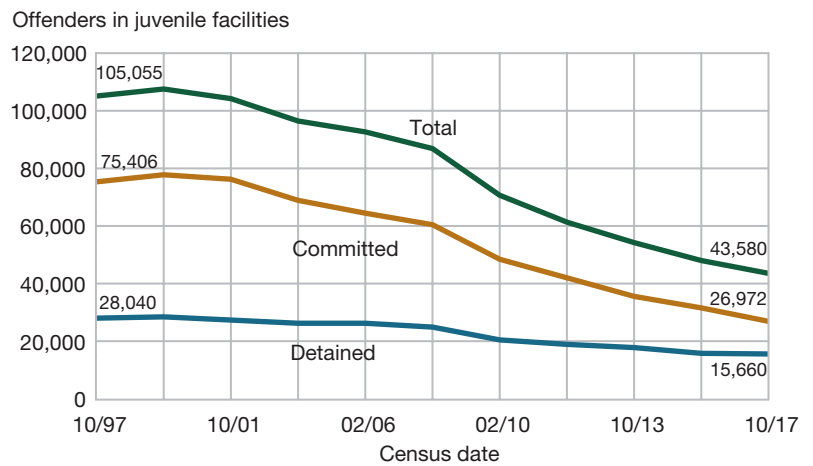


Residential treatment centers, detention centers, and group homes outnumber other types of facilities. Residential treatment centers made up 30 percent of all facilities and held 24 percent of juvenile offenders. Detention centers made up 32 percent of all facilities and held 39 percent of juvenile offenders. Group homes made up 15 percent of facilities and held 8 percent of juvenile offenders. Other facility types reported include long-term secure facilities, shelters, reception/diagnostic centers, and ranch/wilderness camps.<sup>2</sup>

## Trends

A total of 43,580 youth were held in publicly and privately operated juvenile residential facilities on the October 2017 census date. The number of youth held in residential placement decreased 59 percent between 1997 and 2017, bringing the overall count to its lowest level since 1997.

In 2017, 138 juvenile offenders were in placement for every 100,000 juveniles in the U.S. population.<sup>3</sup>



**Note:** Total includes detained youth, committed youth, and a small number of youth in placement as part of a diversion agreement.

## Offense Profiles

The vast majority of youth in residential placement were held for delinquency offenses (96 percent). Person offenses accounted for 41 percent of youth held and property crimes accounted for 22 percent. Technical violations (15 percent), public order offenses (13 percent), and drug offenses (5 percent) accounted for smaller percentages of youth held. Youth in placement for status offenses (conduct that would not be a crime if committed by an adult) made up 4 percent of the population.

## Age

Overall, youth ages 16–17 made up more than 50 percent of youth in residential placement, and youth ages 13–15 made up 29 percent of those in residential placement.

## Sex

Males made up 85 percent and females accounted for 15 percent of juvenile offenders in residential placement.

<sup>2</sup> Respondents were allowed to select more than one facility type category, although the majority (81 percent) selected only one.

<sup>3</sup> The placement rate is the count of juvenile offenders in juvenile residential facilities on the census date per 100,000 youth age 10 through the upper age of original juvenile court jurisdiction in each state.

## Race/Ethnicity

Minority youth accounted for 46 percent of the U.S. juvenile population and 67 percent of juveniles in residential placement. The population of youth held in residential placement for a delinquency or status offense was 41 percent black, 33 percent white, and 21 percent Hispanic. Youth of other races, including those of two or more races, accounted for 5 percent of youth in residential placement.

## Time in Placement

The median days in placement at the time of the 2017 census was 114 days for committed juveniles and 23 days for detained juveniles.<sup>4</sup> One-third (33 percent) of committed juveniles and 8 percent of detained juveniles remained in placement 6 months after admission.

## Deaths in Residential Placement

Juvenile facilities reported 10 deaths of youth younger than age 21 in residential placement for the 12 months prior to the 2017 census. Deaths of juveniles in residential placement remain relatively rare; the death rate in 2017 was 2.3 per 10,000 youth in placement.

## Use of Isolation and Restraints

In 2016, nearly one in four facilities reported using mechanical restraints in the previous month. About one in five facilities reported locking youth alone in some type of seclusion for 4 or more hours to regain control of their behavior.

## Juveniles in Jails and Prisons

County and city jails held about 3,600 inmates age 17 or younger at midyear 2017.<sup>5</sup> Fewer than 1,000 inmates age 17 or younger were under the custody of state or federal prisons at the end of 2017.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> The Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement captures information on the number of days since admission for each juvenile in residential placement. These data represent the number of days the juvenile had been in the facility up to the census date.

<sup>5</sup> Zeng, Z. 2019. *Jail Inmates in 2017*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Statistics.

<sup>6</sup> Bronson, J. and Carson, E.A. 2019. *Prisoners in 2017*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Statistics.

# Improving OJJDP's Data on Juveniles in Corrections

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention issued a competitive solicitation for a redesign study in fiscal year 2018 to assess and improve its current juvenile corrections data collections. Awarded to RTI International and managed by the National Institute of Justice, the study is assessing the utility of and evaluating gaps in the Juvenile Residential Facility Census and the Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement.

Researchers are examining whether these data collections adequately capture recent changes in facility operations and service delivery as well as changes in federal legislation, including new requirements under the Juvenile Justice Reform Act of 2018. They are also examining whether the collections reflect emerging issues and trends in juvenile justice.

The **Redesign Study of OJJDP's Juveniles in Corrections Data Collections** will result in new instrumentation and enhanced methodologies that will improve the federal government's ability to interpret and report the national and state-level characteristics of and trends in juvenile offenders in out-of-home placement and the facilities in which they are held.

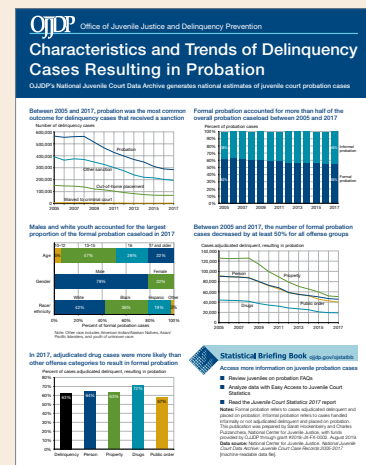
## Statistical Briefing Book

Through the **Statistical Briefing Book**, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention provides timely and reliable access to the latest juvenile justice data.

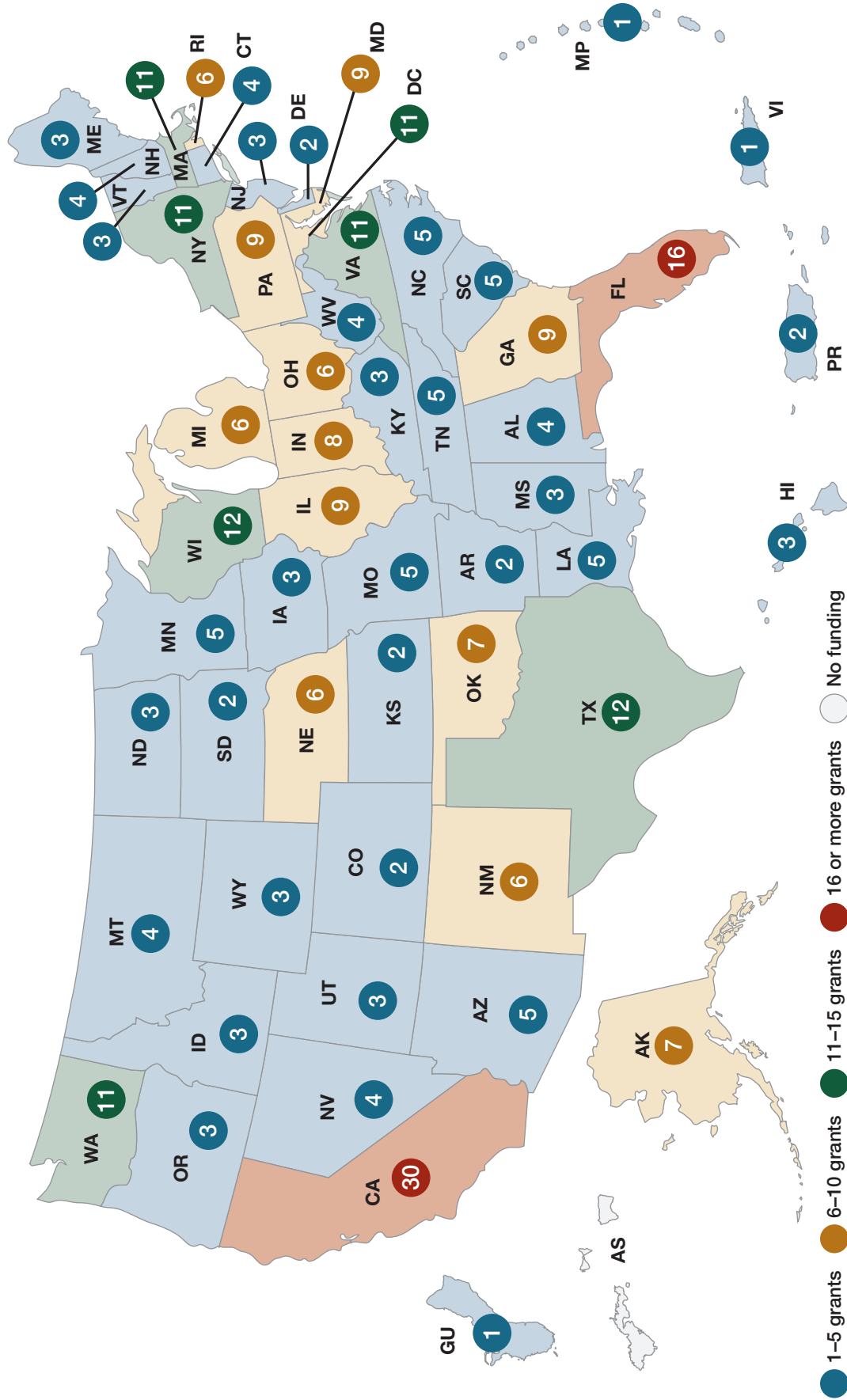
In fiscal year 2019, the Office added—

- New data tables to the **Law Enforcement and Juvenile Crime section**. These tables allow users to view arrests data and trends by offense, gender, race, and age.
- Data on a variety of topics updated through 2017. Topics include juvenile arrests, delinquency and petitioned status offense cases in juvenile courts, and juvenile offenders in residential placement facilities.
- Several **data snapshots** that highlight policy-relevant trends and findings on youth suicide and homicide, delinquency cases resulting in probation, and cases judicially waived from juvenile to criminal court, among others.

Visit [ojjdp.gov/ojstatbb](http://ojjdp.gov/ojstatbb) for more information.



# OJJDP Grants Awarded in Fiscal Year 2019, by State and Territory



The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's grants support state, local, and tribal efforts to reduce and prevent delinquency, improve the juvenile justice system, and protect children from violence and abuse. In fiscal year 2019, the Office awarded 323 grants totaling more than \$323 million.

# Appendix. States' Eligibility and Compliance in Fiscal Year 2019

State <sup>1</sup>	Eligibility	Deinstitutionalization of status offenders	Separation of juveniles from adults in secure facilities	Removal of juveniles from adult jails and lockups	Addressing disproportionate minority contact
Alabama	Eligible	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant
Alaska	Eligible	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant
Arizona	Eligible	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant
Arkansas	Eligible	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant
California	Eligible	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant
Colorado	Eligible	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant
Connecticut	<b>Nonparticipating</b>				
Delaware	Eligible	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant
District of Columbia	Eligible	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant
Florida	Eligible	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant
Georgia	Eligible	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant
Hawaii	Eligible	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant
Idaho	Eligible	<b>Noncompliant</b>	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant
Illinois	Eligible	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant
Indiana	Eligible	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant
Iowa	Eligible	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant
Kansas	Eligible	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant
Kentucky	Eligible	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant
Louisiana	Eligible	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant
Maine	Eligible	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant
Maryland	Eligible	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant
Massachusetts	<b>Ineligible</b>				
Michigan	Eligible	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant
Minnesota	Eligible	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant
Mississippi	Eligible	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant

<sup>1</sup> The term "state" refers to any state of the United States, the District of Columbia, and the five U.S. territories.

State <sup>1</sup>	Eligibility	Deinstitutionalization of status offenders	Separation of juveniles from adults in secure facilities	Removal of juveniles from adult jails and lockups	Addressing disproportionate minority contact
Missouri	Eligible	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant
Montana	Eligible	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant
Nebraska	<b>Nonparticipating</b>				
Nevada	Eligible	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant
New Hampshire	Eligible	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant
New Jersey	Eligible	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant
New Mexico	Eligible	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant
New York	Eligible	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant
North Carolina	Eligible	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant
North Dakota	Eligible	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant
Ohio	Eligible	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant
Oklahoma	Eligible	Compliant	<b>Noncompliant</b>	Compliant	Compliant
Oregon	Eligible	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant
Pennsylvania	Eligible	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant
Rhode Island	Eligible	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant
South Carolina	Eligible	<b>Noncompliant</b>	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant
South Dakota	Eligible	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant
Tennessee	Eligible	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant
Texas	<b>Ineligible</b>				
Utah	Eligible	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant
Vermont	Eligible	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant
Virginia	Eligible	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant
Washington	Eligible	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant
West Virginia	Eligible	Compliant	<b>Noncompliant</b>	<b>Noncompliant</b>	Compliant
Wisconsin	Eligible	Compliant	<b>Noncompliant</b>	Compliant	Compliant
Wyoming	<b>Nonparticipating</b>				
American Samoa	<b>Nonparticipating</b>				
Guam	Eligible	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant
Northern Mariana Islands	<b>Ineligible</b>				
Puerto Rico	Eligible	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant
U.S. Virgin Islands	Eligible	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant	Compliant

Ineligible: States must satisfy the state plan requirements described at 34 U.S.C. § 11133(a) to qualify for funding under the Title II Formula Grants program. States that do not satisfy these requirements in a given year are ineligible to receive a Formula Grants program award for that year.

Nonparticipating: A state that has elected not to participate in the Title II Formula Grants program.



**U.S. Department of Justice**  
Office of Justice Programs  
Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention  
8660 Cherry Lane  
Laurel, MD 20707-4651



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