



Training and Technical Assistance Fiscal Year 2020 Annual Report



A PROGRAM OF
the Office of
Juvenile Justice and
Delinquency Prevention



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About OJJDP



The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) provides national leadership, coordination, and resources to prevent and respond to juvenile delinquency and victimization. OJJDP’s mission is to support the efforts of states, tribes, and communities to develop and implement effective and equitable juvenile justice systems that enhance public safety, ensure youth are held appropriately accountable to both crime victims and communities, and

empower youth to live productive, law-abiding lives. These efforts are critical to OJJDP’s vision of “a nation where our children are healthy, educated, and free from crime and violence. If they come into contact with the juvenile justice system, the contact should be both just and beneficial to them.” A strong training and technical assistance (TTA) process aids OJJDP’s efforts to realize its mission and vision. TTA must be systemically coordinated, aligned with OJJDP priorities, responsive to the needs of the field, and delivered both efficiently and effectively.

This report highlights TTA efforts by OJJDP’s NTTAC and the OJJDP TTA Network in FY 2020 (October 2019 through September 2020).

OJJDP’s National Training and Technical Assistance Center

OJJDP’s National Training and Technical Assistance Center (NTTAC) acts as the facilitator of TTA services and resources on behalf of OJJDP. OJJDP’s NTTAC directly supports the field by brokering TTA requests, managing the use of web-based platforms such as TTA360, providing marketing and outreach support to providers, and operating virtual learning and information-sharing platforms to support OJJDP and its TTA providers. NTTAC also operates OJJDP’s TTA Help Desk, which provides easy access to TTA information for professionals in the field.



OJJDP's TTA Network

OJJDP makes awards to organizations to provide TTA, resources, and services. These organizations make up the OJJDP TTA Network. In FY 2020, OJJDP's TTA Network comprised 38 provider organizations from across the nation. These organizations managed 49 grant-funded projects serving the child protection and juvenile justice fields. Services TTA providers in the TTA Network offer include information dissemination, online and in-person training, and onsite customized TTA.

Office of Juvenile Justice and
Delinquency Prevention



Training & Technical
Assistance Network

The OJJDP TTA Network functions to achieve the goals outlined below.

OJJDP TTA Network Goals



Maximize and leverage resources through coordination.



Work collaboratively to address common challenges.



Use technology to efficiently deliver and track TTA.



Promote standardization and consistency in quality.



Communicate TTA needs to OJJDP.

Providers in the OJJDP TTA Network offer TTA support that falls into three categories that classify TTA activities based on the level of engagement and intensity. These categories are Universal TTA aimed at the public, Targeted TTA delivered to a group of recipients with similar needs, and Tailored TTA designed and customized to address an organization's individualized needs.

Range of Topical Areas in FY 2020:

- Reducing violent crime
- Ensuring public safety
- Promoting youth development
- Supporting prosecutors
- Combating gangs
- Reducing drug use
- Preventing child abuse, neglect, and victimization
- Supporting and protecting law enforcement

TTA Collaboration

OJJDP TTA Network: Collaboration and Coordination

Enhancing TTA Delivery

OJJDP promotes collaboration across its TTA Network by providing regular opportunities for TTA Network members to share information with the support of OJJDP's NTTAC. Collaborative efforts allow time for providers to learn from one another, share evidence-based practices, and plan future work to improve services to the juvenile justice and child protection fields. In FY 2020, these efforts included provider collaboration meetings, maximizing product accessibility, and a variety of virtual and in-person activities.

OJJDP TTA Provider Collaboration Meetings

During FY 2020, OJJDP's NTTAC planned, developed, and hosted three OJJDP TTA Provider Collaboration Meetings. The meetings covered a variety of content and topics and offered an opportunity for TTA providers to share work they have completed as part of their TTA grant.

Below are expanded details regarding each meeting.

FY 2020's first collaboration meeting, held on January 23, 2020, featured a presentation on the new OJJDP website. OJJDP provided an update on training and outreach, including important revisions and approvals required for the webinar concept form. OJJDP's NTTAC discussed the availability of and revisions to the quick reference guide for OJJDP's NTTAC, the NTTAC brochure, guide to NTTAC services, and the newly available public inquiries module of TTA360; and held an open forum on the format for the OJJDP TTA Provider Collaboration Meetings. The meeting concluded with an open forum for providers to share information and success stories regarding work they have completed in delivering TTA.

The April 22, 2020, collaboration meeting included a presentation on OJJDP's work to support youth in rural communities and an overview of the FY 2020 TTA Provider Directory. OJJDP's NTTAC discussed the TTA360 training available to TTA providers and offered an example of a model TTA360 request. OJJDP's NTTAC also presented an overview of the FY 2019 TTA Annual Report. For the TTA Provider Spotlight, the director of education and research from the Zero Abuse Project gave a presentation on a prosecutor-focused project. This was followed by an open forum for providers to share information and success stories in delivering TTA.

During the July 15, 2020, collaboration meeting, OJJDP delivered a presentation on how TTA providers can collaborate with the United States Attorney's Office. OJJDP further discussed the various communication mediums used to advertise events and OJJDP's work through its communications team. OJJDP also sought information from OJJDP's TTA Network to determine the feasibility of OJJDP's TTA providers using a learning management software. In addition, ICF, along with representatives from The Innocent Justice Foundation and the National Criminal Justice Training Center of Fox Valley Technical College, shared resources and tips on how to transition from conducting in-person training to a virtual training environment in response to restrictions imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Ensuring That Trainings and Resources Are Accessible

OJJDP's NTTAC collaborates with TTA providers to create accessible products that comply with Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act. This collaboration is crucial to OJJDP because it helps maximize the number of individuals who can access and learn from the resources OJJDP develops. To demonstrate commitment to creating accessible documentation, all products and services available through the OJJDP TTA Network are made accessible to individuals with hearing and vision impairments. OJJDP's NTTAC provides 508 remediation services for products and resources developed by the OJJDP TTA Network and has created three web trainings on 508 compliance to support the OJJDP TTA Network in creating their own accessible products. These trainings were made available on OJJDP's and NTTAC's YouTube channels, and include an overview on how to remediate Word documents and PowerPoint presentations. In FY 2020, OJJDP's NTTAC helped make more than 140 resources 508 compliant on behalf of the OJJDP TTA Network.

To further support the development of these resources, OJJDP's NTTAC developed a fourth web training video to focus on how to create and use 508-compliant PowerPoint templates. In this video, ICF's web accessibility specialist demonstrates how to make a PowerPoint template, ensure that it is 508 compliant, and maintain compliance when the template is used in multiple instances.

Collaboration in Action: OJJDP's TTA Network Supports the Field

Across the TTA Network, TTA providers collaborated to deliver specialized TTA to the juvenile justice and child victimization prevention fields. In FY 2020, TTA provider organizations reported more than 94 instances of interorganizational collaborative TTA. These collaborations included work groups, trainings, and other collaborations with partners tailored to audiences such as prosecutors, families, medical providers, tribal professionals, and more. Areas of TTA include:

Supporting Youth Affected by Drug Use and Misuse

To address youth affected by drug use and misuse, TTA providers collaborated to provide technical assistance, present various trainings, host a webinar series, and facilitate collaborative workshops.

For example, the Institute for Intergovernmental Research (IIR) collaborated with Children and Family Futures (CFF) to assist in the identification of gaps in services for families engaged in the child welfare system as a result of opioid use or misuse. IIR also collaborated with the Tribal Law Policy Institute on strategies to engage and interact with tribal communities that are part of the Opioid Affected Youth Initiative.

Training/webinar collaborations included CFF collaborating with National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ) to present at the Annual NCJFCJ Conference on strategies to serve all families affected by parental substance use disorders, and National Court Appointed Special Advocates/Guardians ad Litem Association collaborating with CFF on a 3-part substance use disorder webinar series.

Collaborative workshops included NCJFCJ hosting a judicial workgroup on the opioid crisis to help

establish the role of juvenile and family court judges in addressing the opioid crisis. The workgroup drafted and approved a resolution on the use of medication-assisted treatment and a technical assistance brief outlining the specific role of the judge in this area.

TTA Spotlight

National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ) Unveils Role-Specific Juvenile Drug Treatment Court (JDTC) Training and Resources. The JDTC model, like other problem-solving courts, uses a team approach to respond to youth who are involved in the juvenile justice system and have a substance use disorder. The team typically is composed of a judge, a coordinator, a probation officer, a defense attorney, a prosecutor, and a substance abuse treatment provider. The role each team member plays within a JDTC is distinct and requires a different approach than what is traditionally expected for the role. This can lead to confusion for new JDTC team members who are uncertain about the differences between their traditional roles and the more team-oriented JDTC roles. NCJFCJ has been working to create role-specific training and resources that incorporate both practitioner points of view and the latest research.

The Evolving Role of the Prosecutor in Juvenile Drug Treatment Courts: Advice From the Field and *The Role of Defense Attorneys in Juvenile Drug Treatment Courts: Recommendations From the Field* are the two newest publications released under this initiative. Each publication was created with input from current and former JDTC prosecutors and defense attorneys, and each provides practical, real-world approaches to the challenges that prosecutors and defense attorneys face in JDTC programs, including how to address ethical concerns that may arise because of the team approach.

NCJFCJ also created a 2-day training specifically for probation officers/case managers within the JDTC. The first of these trainings was conducted in February 2020 and focused on how probation officers/case managers can use the information from risk/needs assessments and SMART goals to create case plans with youth that focus on skill and competency development rather than court order compliance.

Role-specific training is expected to continue in 2021.

Supporting Rural Communities

To support rural communities, providers collaborated to host trainings and virtual forums. For example, the National Juvenile Defender Center collaborated with the Pacific Juvenile Defender Center to host several trainings with rural juvenile defenders on accessing and incorporating data into proceedings and effective client/attorney relationships. In addition, the Western Regional Children's Advocacy Center piloted two virtual Mental Health Peer Consultation Forums in partnership with the National Children's Alliance to provide clinicians with the opportunity to connect with other clinicians doing similar work in rural and frontier communities.

Supporting Law Enforcement and Prosecutors and Ensuring Community Safety

To support law enforcement and prosecutors and ensure community safety, TTA providers

collaborated on trainings and cohosted webinars. For example, the Zero Abuse Project worked with the National District Attorneys Association, Rady's Children's Hospital/Western Regional Children's Advocacy Center, and Children's Hospitals and Clinics of Minnesota/Midwest Regional Children's Advocacy Center to facilitate statewide trainings on conducting and defending forensic interviews during the COVID-19 pandemic. Also, Family and Youth of Lake Charles, LA, hosted a 2-day conference that included collaborations with the Northeast Regional Children's Advocacy Center and the Southern Regional Children's Advocacy Center to present two workshops on trauma-informed multidisciplinary teams and identifying corroborative evidence from forensic interviews.

TTA Spotlight

Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) Seeks To Align Valid Court Order (VCO) Exception With Requirements Under Juvenile Justice Reform Act of 2018. The Virginia DCJS submitted a TTA request in March 2019 seeking assistance to reduce the use of the VCO exception. DCJS sought to align the use of the VCO exception with the new requirements set forth by the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act as amended by the Juvenile Justice Reform Act of 2018 and explore the possibility of prohibiting its use. TTA provided included conducting a scan of strategies from jurisdictions across the country that were being used to reduce and/or eliminate the use of the VCO exception. TTA also included providing state and national information, updates, and resources on implementing the Family First Prevention Services Act and responding to human trafficking of minors; conducting a scan of policy changes across the country to prohibit the use of the VCO exception for youth charged with status offenses; and engaging an expert in data analysis to participate in a meeting with DCJS and the Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice on the use of data to explore system improvements.

Through this process, DCJS formed and continually met with a working group of stakeholders from other child serving systems (i.e., social services, behavioral health, education, etc.) in communities that had high use of the VCO exception. In late January 2020, in collaboration with the DCJS and the workgroup, the Center for Coordinated Assistance to States (CCAS) hosted the first roundtable with interdisciplinary stakeholders from several court service units where use of the VCO exception exceeded the new requirements. Participants listened to the changes in the law, learned about advancements in the state on prevention and early intervention services to prevent or slow the process of court referrals, and brainstormed strategies for aligning with the changes within their respective court service units.

DCJS submitted a subsequent request to support the ongoing work to reduce and eliminate the use of the VCO. CCAS and Judge David Hejmanowski of the Delaware County Probate/Juvenile Court in Ohio partnered with Virginia's Disability Services Agencies and the Virginia Court Improvement Program within the Office of the Executive Secretary to host two virtual discussion sessions about alternative approaches to, and the ongoing efforts around, the use of the VCO.

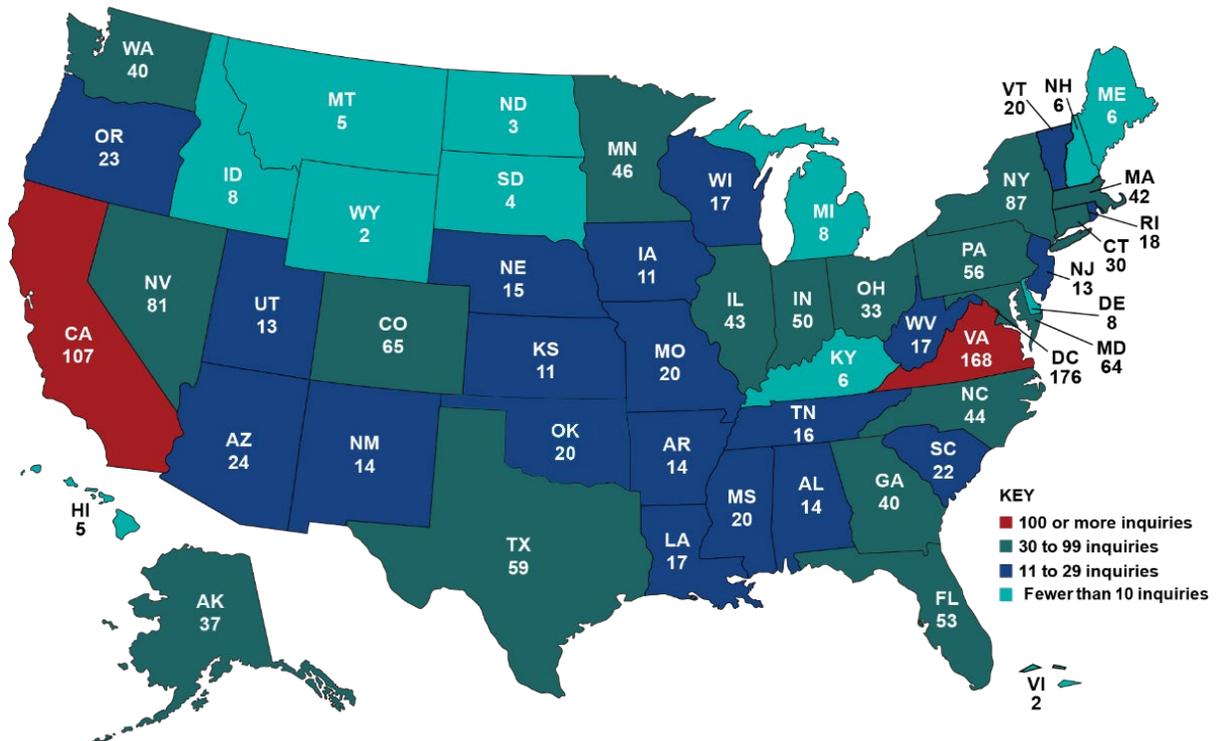
TTA Services

TTA Services Brokered by OJJDP’s NTTAC and Provided to the Field

OJJDP has simplified how the juvenile justice and child victimization prevention fields can access training and technical assistance from the TTA Network through an online TTA request and management system called [TTA360](#). TTA360 provides a centralized location for the field (the public, practitioners, and other stakeholders) to request TTA. OJJDP’s TTA360 helps the field easily request TTA from any of OJJDP’s TTA providers and allows TTA providers to track and manage their TTA requests from start to finish. TTA360 allows the field to receive timely support from the OJJDP TTA Network.

In FY 2020, 1,726 requests were submitted via TTA360. The OJJDP TTA Network supported all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. TTA was most frequently requested from individuals in the District of Columbia (176 requests), Virginia (168 requests), California (107 requests), New York (87 requests), and Nevada (81 requests). See [Figure 1](#).

Figure 1: Distribution of States Requesting TTA in FY 2020 (n=1,726)



The OJJDP TTA Network supports a variety of types of requests, including information, dissemination, and referral requests; conferences; trainings; peer sharing; assessment and evaluation; and planning and development. More than half of requesters asked for training support (59 percent); almost one-third of requesters asked for information, dissemination, and referral support (29 percent); and nearly one-third asked for planning and development support (28 percent). (Please note: In some instances, the requester sought more than one type of assistance. As a result, the percentages do not total 100 percent.) This demonstrates the TTA Network’s in-depth work and breadth of knowledge in FY 2020. See **Figure 2** for a summary of the top three types of requests.

Figure 2: Top 3 Types of TTA Requested in FY 2020



Nearly 47 percent of the requests received by the OJJDP TTA Network pertained to mentoring, 40 percent to child safety, and 16 percent to youth and family engagement. See **Figure 3**.

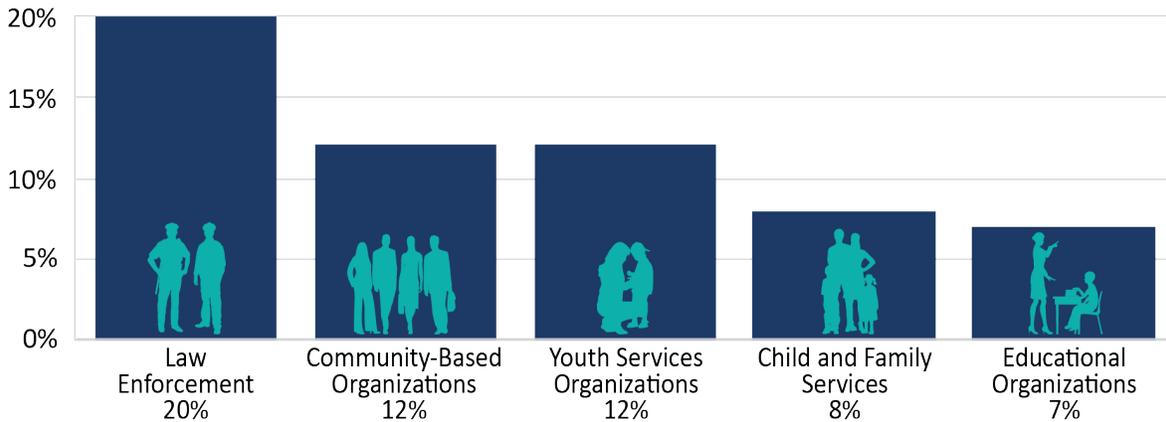
Figure 3: Topics of TTA Requested in FY 2020



(Please note: In some instances, requesters sought assistance on more than one topic. As a result, the percentages do not total 100 percent.)

The primary organization types that requested the OJJDP TTA Network’s support through TTA360 were law enforcement (20 percent), community-based organizations (12 percent), youth services organizations (12 percent), child and family services organizations (8 percent), and educational organizations (7 percent). See **Figure 4**.

Figure 4: Organizations Requesting TTA in FY 2020



Virtual TTA: Supporting and Building Capacity for the Field Using Webinar Technology

Virtual TTA is an integral part of the service provided by OJJDP’s TTA Network. Virtual TTA expands OJJDP’s reach to a larger number of practitioners and stakeholders more efficiently than through traditional in-person training. OJJDP’s virtual TTA allows professionals to learn about current best practices and is a key tool to build the capacity of practitioners who make up the juvenile justice and child protection fields. A major component of virtual TTA delivery is conducting webinars. Webinars were hosted either by individual TTA providers or with the support of OJJDP’s NTTAC. In FY 2020, OJJDP delivered 1,024 trainings reaching 38,822 participants. Of those trainings, 375 were webinars, which reached 21,569 professionals. In FY 2020, OJJDP’s NTTAC supported 71 webinars in collaboration with TTA providers, serving 18,972 participants.

Webinars Supported by OJJDP’s NTTAC by Month

In FY 2020, OJJDP TTA providers delivered a variety of webinars to the field each month. The most highly attended webinars included those that addressed topics such as protecting youth from gangs and online bullying; understanding the effects of traumatic stress on families and youth; and mental health and wellness. The data below provides a summary of webinars hosted

by the OJJDP TTA Network and supported by OJJDP’s NTTAC. In FY 2020, OJJDP’s NTTAC conducted the greatest number of webinars in March, with peak attendance periods in April, June, and July (see **Figure 5** and **Figure 6**). Overall, webinars received 6,292 more participants in FY 2020 than in FY 2019.

Figure 5: Webinars by Month

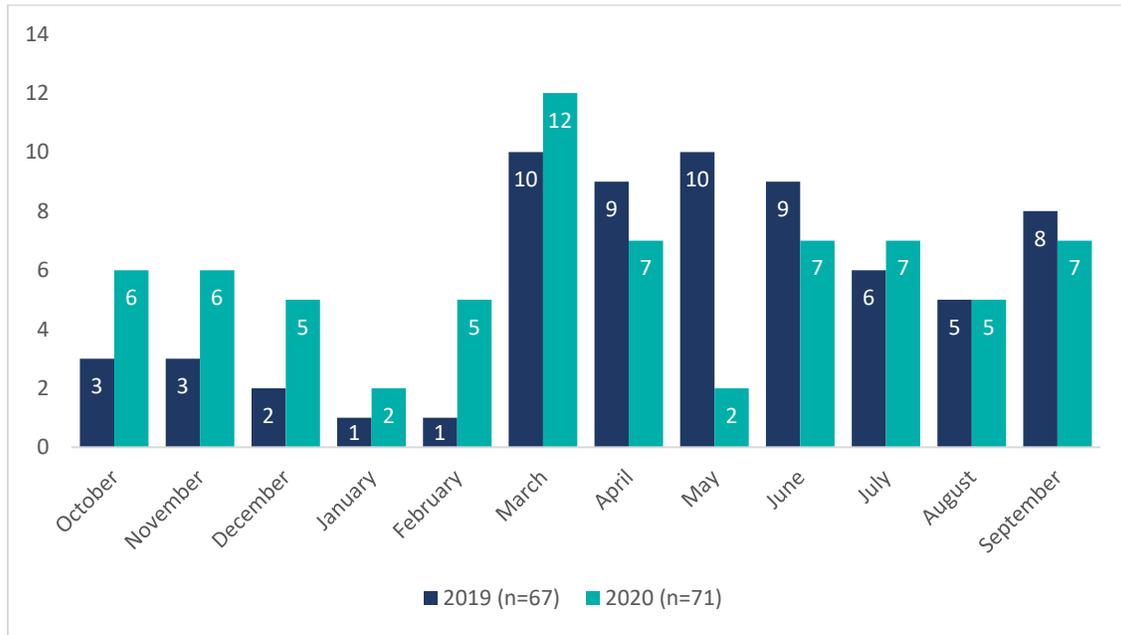
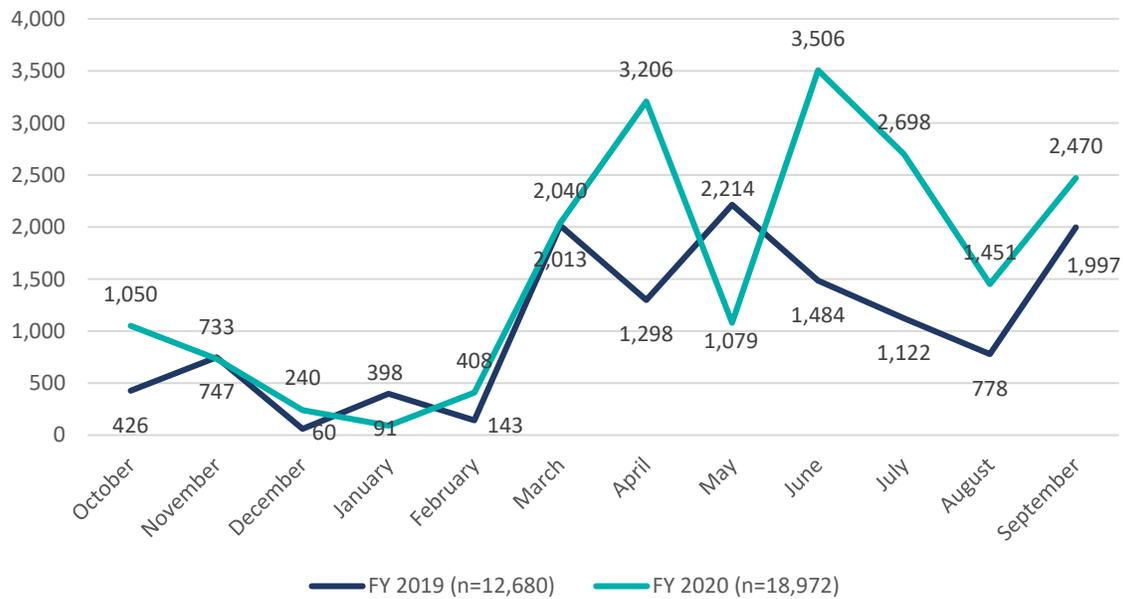


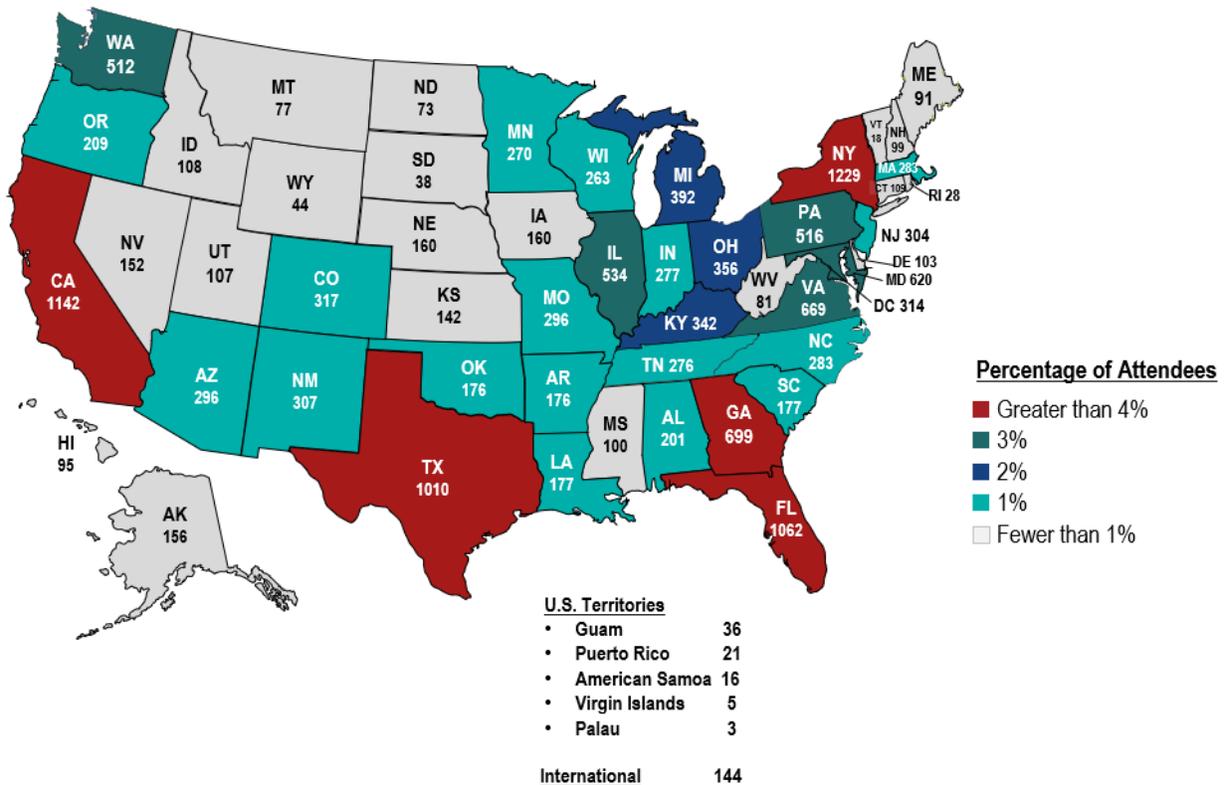
Figure 6: Webinar Participants by Month



Webinar Participant Demographics

In FY 2020, the OJJDP TTA Network made its webinars available to broad audiences of national and international participants. **Figure 7** presents data from participants who registered for and participated in FY 2020 webinars. States with the highest proportion of attendees were New York (1,229 attendees), California (1,142 attendees), Florida (1,062 attendees), Texas (1,010 attendees), and Georgia (699 attendees).

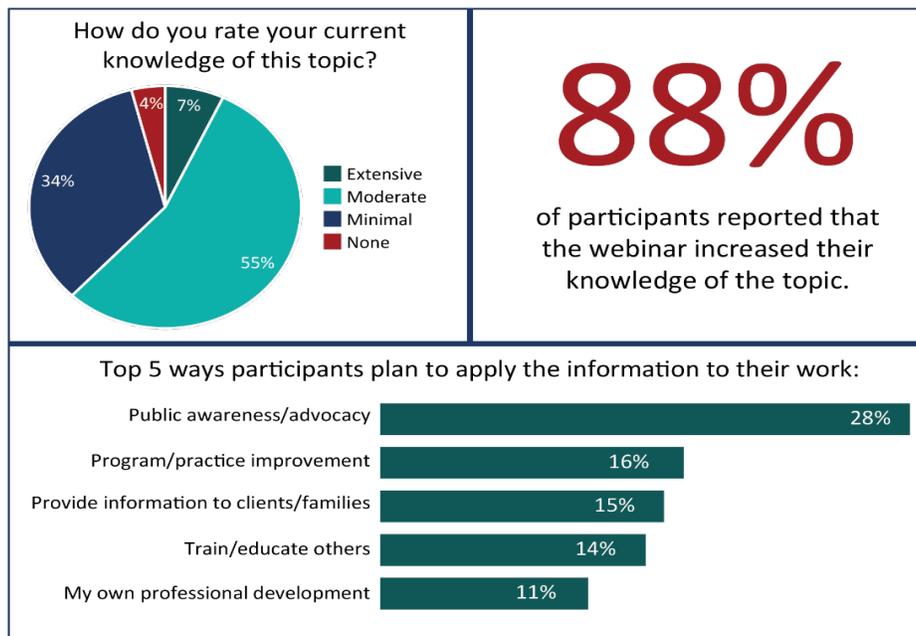
Figure 7: FY 2020 Webinar Attendees by State/Territory



Webinar Evaluations

Evaluation metrics were collected from webinars asking a single question at the beginning of a webinar using poll features (“How do you rate your current knowledge of this topic?”); during the webinar using polling features (“How do you plan to apply the information from this webinar to your work?”); and immediately following the webinar through a single question survey (“Please let us know whether or not the webinar increased your knowledge of the topic, and if so, how?”). Data collection during registration and using polls began in February 2020 and data collection for knowledge increase started in June 2020. See **Figure 8** for a summary of FY 2020 webinar evaluation results.

Figure 8: Webinar Evaluation Results



Outreach and Dissemination

Field Outreach and Resource Dissemination

OJJDP TTA Help Desk: Assisting the Field

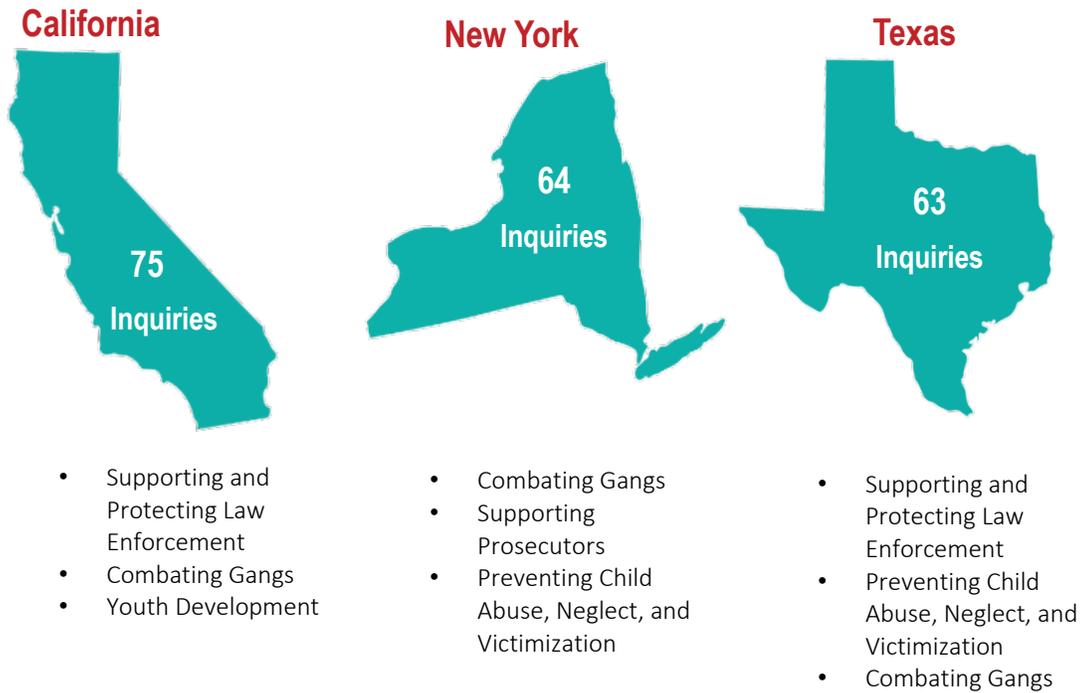
OJJDP’s NTTAC promotes awareness of OJJDP’s TTA resources and services and facilitates access to the field through the operation of the multifaceted OJJDP TTA Help Desk. The OJJDP TTA Help Desk develops and disseminates products and resources for juvenile justice professionals and stakeholders and connects requesters with subject matter experts that provide TTA. In FY 2020, OJJDP’s TTA Help Desk responded to 1,184 total inquiries.

OJJDP TTA Help Desk: Types of Inquiries

Figure 9 illustrates the content of inquiries the OJJDP TTA Help Desk supported in FY 2020. The OJJDP TTA Help Desk supported inquiries assisting with TTA360; webinars; provision of TTA resources or services; and in other areas such as assistance with 508 compliance, consultant requirements, and listserv emails.

In FY 2020, definitions for each type of inquiry were clarified. This resulted in significant differences in the types of inquiries reported in FY 2019 compared with FY 2020. For example, requests for webinar PowerPoint presentations and attendance certificates were recategorized as Resources and Services, as opposed to Webinar Technical Support.

Figure 11: Top 3 States With the Most Help Desk Inquiries and Top 3 Topics per State



Resource Dissemination

Products and Publications

The OJJDP TTA Network developed a range of resources and products to support the field, including the development of 450 resources in FY 2020, as shown in Figure 12.

Figure 12: Types of Resources Developed by the OJJDP TTA Network



The following are examples of products developed by the OJJDP TTA Network:

- Rady's Children's Hospital/Western Regional Children’s Advocacy Center developed an issue brief on Considerations for Hosting In-Person Trainings and Events.
- Youth Collaboratory developed a Program Development Checklist.
- The National Children’s Alliance developed a rural and remote service area training for four states.
- The National Court Appointed Special Advocates Association developed several presentations on working remotely and safely.
- The Institute for Intergovernmental Research compiled gang-related news articles and legislation and made them available on the National Gang Center website.

In addition to the products and publications developed by the OJJDP TTA Network, OJJDP’s NTTAC developed the 2020 Provider Directory to assist the public in understanding the breadth of TTA delivery offered by OJJDP. The Provider Directory is also used by OJJDP to support coordination and communication among TTA providers.

Listserv



OJJDP’s NTTAC manages a subscriber-based listserv to disseminate information about OJJDP’s TTA services and resources. In FY 2020, OJJDP’s NTTAC listserv subscription base expanded to 49,641 subscribers—an increase of 8,695 over FY 2019 totals. Of the 49,641 individuals subscribed to OJJDP’s NTTAC field listserv, 19,170 have indicated their profession. An analysis of this information in **Figure 13** shows the distribution

of professionals subscribed to the listserv. Content shared via the listserv includes upcoming events hosted by the OJJDP TTA Network.

Figure 13: OJJDP’s NTTAC Listserv Audience, FY 2020



Please note: Percentages are rounded in the above graphic and total more than 100%.

Social Media

OJJDP’s NTTAC keeps the juvenile justice field apprised of new OJJDP TTA Network resources and tools through Facebook and YouTube.

Facebook



In FY 2020, OJJDP's NTTAC shared 150 posts which had over 9,599 page views.

To support the field with accessible and easy-to-understand information, OJJDP’s NTTAC shares OJJDP TTA Network-developed materials through its Facebook page. OJJDP’s NTTAC Facebook page makes key information on OJJDP’s TTA Network training and resources available to other OJJDP TTA projects, juvenile justice professionals, and the public.

YouTube

To share virtual trainings and meetings with the public and help keep the field informed, OJJDP’s NTTAC hosts a YouTube page.

Key content includes past webinars on such topics as averted school violence, runaway and homeless youth, supporting prosecutors, working with family drug courts, supporting law enforcement, and combating gangs. Training videos on 508 compliance created by OJJDP’s NTTAC are also posted on the YouTube page. These videos were developed to assist TTA providers in meeting 508 compliance requirements for videos, PowerPoints, and Word documents.



Enhancing safety.

Ensuring accountability.

Empowering youth.