

# OFFICE FOR VICTIMS OF CRIME TIMS SNAPSHOT REPORT

July 2016–June 2017



## Services for Victims of Human Trafficking

The Office for Victims of Crime (OVC), within the Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice, manages the largest amount of federal funding dedicated to providing direct services to survivors of human trafficking in the United States. The Trafficking Information Management System (TIMS) serves as a centralized repository for grant-required performance metrics and case-specific information related to all OVC human trafficking grant programs. This brief provides aggregate data for 90 grantees across four human trafficking grant programs, as reported in TIMS for the period of July 2016 through June 2017.

OVC administers grant funding to enhance the quality and quantity of services available to assist victims of human trafficking, including through three flagship grant programs: the Comprehensive Services for Victims of All Forms of Human Trafficking Program, the OVC/BJA Enhanced Collaborative Model to Combat Human Trafficking Program, and the Specialized Services for Victims of Human Trafficking Program. Key grantee activities include—

1. providing comprehensive and specialized services to victims of human trafficking;
2. developing multidisciplinary task forces with federal, state, and local law enforcement, service providers, and community- and faith-based organizations to ensure that trafficking victims are identified and referred for appropriate services, and that these cases are investigated and prosecuted;
3. conducting training, technical assistance, and public awareness to improve community capacity to respond to trafficking; and

4. conducting data collection and evaluation activities to determine if the program is meeting stated goals and objectives.

In addition to these ongoing programs, in 2016, OVC released the Improving Outcomes for Child and Youth Victims of Human Trafficking Program. Grantees under this program have identified their state's greatest barriers to responding to child and youth victims of sex and labor trafficking, and are implementing programs to address these barriers.

The two largest populations served across all four grant programs were U.S. citizen victims of sex trafficking and foreign national victims of labor trafficking. These numbers should not be taken as a reflection of human trafficking victimization in the United States as a whole, but as a snapshot of those victims that have received services through OVC grant funds during the reporting period. Over time, there has been a steady increase in the number of grantees awarded funding, as well as a corresponding increase in the number of clients served. For example,

*Through OVC funding and the assistance of grant partners, we were able to assist a woman who was trafficked and held captive at motels for over 20 years. When rescued, her 15-year-old daughter was able to attend school for the first time in her life. She received family law services and was able to divorce her trafficker. The client and daughter were also assisted with emergency shelter, transitional housing, and mental health services, among other things.*

— Specialized Services for Victims of Human Trafficking Program

the number of clients served during the July 2016–June 2017 reporting period increased by more than 2,000 from the prior reporting period (8,003 clients versus 5,655 clients, respectively).

The services provided by grantees are reported as time-based and incident-based, allowing for different ways of measuring the quantity of services

### During the reporting period, the 90 program grantees reported serving —



**8,003  
Total Clients**

including confirmed trafficking victims and individuals showing strong indicators of trafficking victimization.



**4,349  
New Clients**

served under the grant for the first time.

### Of the clients served —



**78%  
Adults**

(6,244 clients)

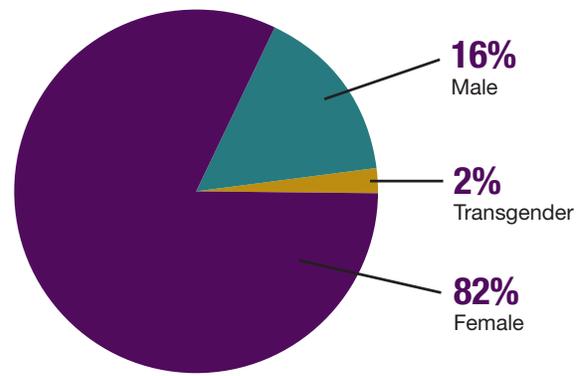
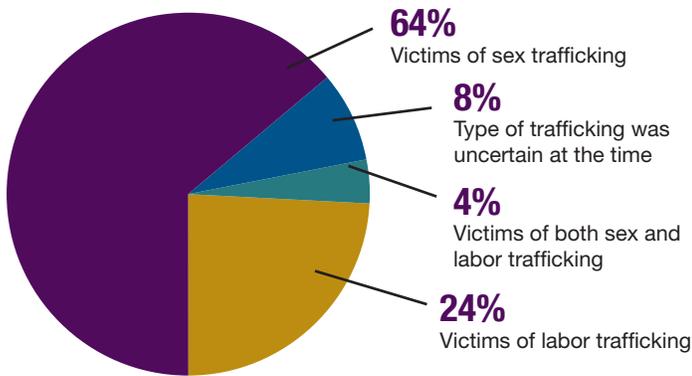


**22%  
Minors, or Under  
18 Years of Age**

(1,759 clients)

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**Of the 8,003 clients served —**



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provided. The time-based services most frequently provided to clients included ongoing case management, legal services, housing and rental assistance, emotional support, and mental health treatment. The incident-based services most frequently provided to clients included personal items (e.g., food, clothing, hygiene products), housing and shelter advocacy, transportation, protection and safety planning, and medical services. Grantees provided 1,130 housing placements, including 722 emergency shelter placements, 219 transitional housing placements, and 189 long-term housing placements. The data underscore the need for a wide range of services, as well as flexibility and planning in advance of victim identification, to ensure that service providers can effectively meet the needs of this diverse population of victims.

A key element of the program is providing training to raise public awareness and enhance the ability of partners and other first responders to identify and serve victims effectively. During the reporting period, grantees conducted trainings for more than 56,000 participants, including those from schools and educational institutions, medical and public health providers, victim service providers, social service providers, and state and local law enforcement.

OVC has identified a need for better victim services data, and the trafficking field in particular is eager to use this data to enhance the understanding of, and strengthen the response to, this often hidden crime. The data available in TIMS informs OVC programming and demonstrates the need for flexible funding to meet a wide range of victim service needs.

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*One of our law enforcement partners on the task force identified a victim of child sex trafficking and referred them to us for case management. We were able to connect the child to a specialized trauma therapist and we connected the child's family to a family therapist. Before graduating from our case management program, the survivor expressed feelings of increased self-esteem and was able to drastically reduce her trauma and depression-related symptoms.*

— OVC/BJA Enhanced Collaborative Model to Combat Human Trafficking Program

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*Through OVC funding, we were able to serve an entire family, where each family member had been separately exploited in forced labor. We were able to help the family secure safe housing together. Since then, the family has been able to rebuild their lives and connect with their new community through ESL and high school classes.*

— Comprehensive Services for Victims of All Forms of Human Trafficking Program

TIMS captures only direct services provided through OVC grants; it does not necessarily capture services provided by and funded through other sources. Therefore, data should only be used to better understand the OVC grant initiative and should not be used to make generalizations about the grantees or the scale and scope of human trafficking in the United States as a whole. TIMS is a live data system in which reported numbers are subject to change: this data is current as of January 2018. There may be duplicate client data in cases where a grantee transitioned from one grant type to another and clients were assigned to both grants, or where clients were served by more than one grantee. For more information on OVC's anti-trafficking efforts and available resources, visit <http://ovc.ncjrs.gov/humantrafficking>.