

OFFICE FOR VICTIMS OF CRIME TIMS SNAPSHOT REPORT

July 2017–June 2018



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 98 grantees across 5 human trafficking grant programs, as reported in TIMS for the period of July 2017 through June 2018.

During the reporting period, OVC administered grant funding to enhance the quality and quantity of services available to assist victims of human trafficking, including through five 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, the Specialized Services for Victims of Human Trafficking Program, the Improving Outcomes for Child and Youth Victims of Human Trafficking Program, and Project Beacon: Increasing Services for Urban Native American and Alaska Native Victims of Human Trafficking. Key grantee activities included—

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 activities 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.

The two largest populations served across all five 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, the number of clients served during the July 2017–June 2018 reporting period increased by nearly 1,000 from the prior reporting period (8,913 clients versus 8,003 clients, respectively).

OVC funding allowed program staff to travel statewide, including to rural areas, and connect with service providers lacking sufficient resources to meet all the various needs of victims of human trafficking in their community. Establishing positive work relationships with these service providers and respecting them as the experts in their communities has allowed our team to offer supportive case management to their clients and build their capacity.

The services provided by grantees are reported as time-based and incident-based, allowing for different ways of measuring the quantity of services provided. The time-based services most frequently provided to clients included ongoing case management, legal services, housing/shelter advocacy, emotional and moral support, and employment assistance. The incident-based services most frequently provided to clients included personal items (e.g.,

During the reporting period, the 98 program grantees reported serving —



**8,913
Total Clients**

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



**4,739
New Clients**

served under the grant for the first time.

Of the clients served —

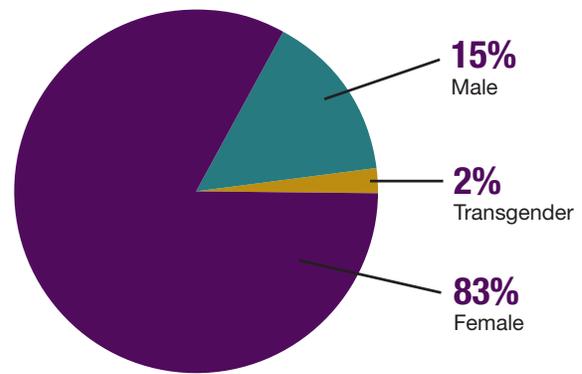
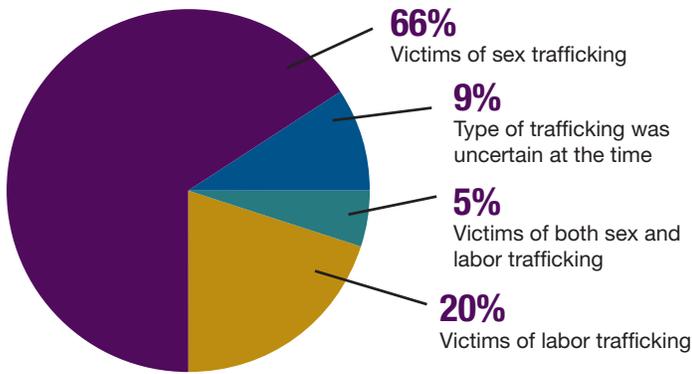


**76%
Adults**
(6,773 clients)



**24%
Minors, or Under
18 Years of Age**
(2,140 clients)

Of the 8,913 clients served —



food, clothing, hygiene products), housing and rental assistance, transportation, mental health treatment, and education. Grantees provided 1,271 housing placements, including 619 emergency shelter placements, 298 transitional housing placements, and 354 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 76,600 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.

One young client, who became a victim of labor trafficking as a child, obtained a much-needed surgery after enduring years of chronic pain and medical neglect by her traffickers. Through excellent self-advocacy and with the support of her case manager, counselor, and legal team, she enrolled in a financial assistance program and had the surgery she needed. She is fully recovered, pain free, and excited to focus on new goals for her future.

We noticed an increase in trafficking survivors who have intellectual disabilities and/or severe learning disabilities. We are grateful that OVC funding allows us to have smaller caseloads so we can provide these survivors with the extra time and attention that they need.

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 2019. 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>.