

OFFICE FOR VICTIMS OF CRIME TIMS SNAPSHOT REPORT

July 2018–June 2019



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 118 grantees across 6 human trafficking grant programs, as reported in TIMS for the period of July 2018 through June 2019.

During the reporting period, OVC administered grant funding to enhance the quality and quantity of services available to assist 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 its stated goals and objectives.

During the 1-year period for which statistics are available, OVC's human trafficking program grantees reported providing direct services to 8,375 clients,

including 5,090 new clients. These numbers are not a reflection of human trafficking victimization in the United States as a whole, but a snapshot of those individuals who have received services through OVC grant funds during the reporting period. Over time, the number of grantees awarded funding has increased steadily, with a corresponding increase in the number of clients served.

The services that grantees provide 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, emotional and moral support, legal services, employment assistance, and safety planning. The incident-based services most frequently provided to clients included personal items (e.g., food, clothing, and hygiene products), transportation, education, housing and rental assistance, and mental health treatment. Grantees provided 1,957 housing placements, including 651 placements in emergency shelters, 478 in transitional housing, and 828 in

OVC-funded staff help young survivors navigate complex systems such as the criminal justice system and the foster care system, connecting them with appropriate community resources, providing specialized therapeutic services, and helping them advocate for themselves.

long-term housing. Housing placements in emergency shelters decreased, and placements in long-term housing increased from the prior reporting period. 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 reported conducting over 2,000 trainings for more than 82,000

During the reporting period, the 118 grantees reported serving —



8,375
Total Clients

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



5,090
New Clients

served under the grant for the first time.

Of the clients served —

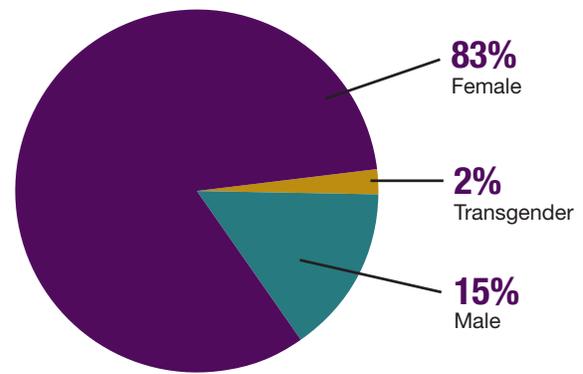
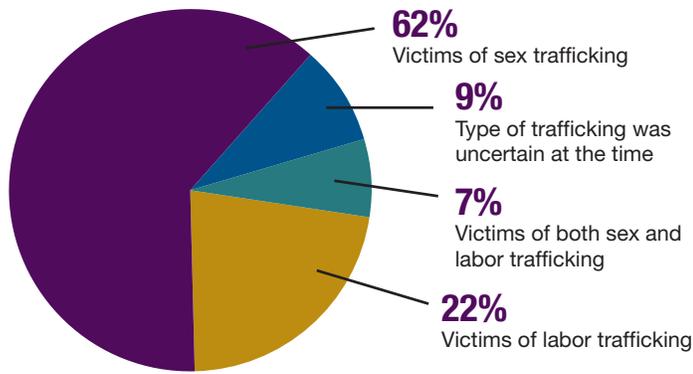


79%
Adults
(6,618 clients)



21%
Minors, or Under 18 Years of Age
(1,757 clients)

Of the 8,375 clients served —



participants, including participants from schools and educational institutions, medical and public health providers, victim service providers, social service providers, and state and local law enforcement. The training topics covered most often included the definition of human trafficking, identification of human trafficking, services available to victims, risk factors for human trafficking, and local/regional dimensions of the problem.

OVC has identified a need for better data about victim services, and the trafficking field 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.

Through OVC funding, one young trafficking survivor went from being homeless to moving into safe, independent housing and enrolling full-time in business school. The grantee was able to provide her with assistance with accessing this stable housing and to connect her with long-term financial assistance resources to help maintain self-sufficiency. She has been meeting with a therapist to start the healing process and grantee staff have been working with her on reconnecting with a family member to help build a healthy support system.

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 be used only 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 the numbers reported are subject to change; the data presented here is current as of January 2020. 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 the resources available, visit <http://ovc.ncjrs.gov/humantrafficking>.