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OFFICE FOR VICTIMS OF CRIME TIMS SNAPSHOT REPORT

July 2015—June 2016



Office for Victims of Crime
OVC

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 across three human trafficking grant programs as reported in TIMS for the period of July 2015 through June 2016.

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 All Victims 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.

The two largest populations served across all three grant programs were U.S. citizen victims of sex trafficking and foreign national victims of labor trafficking. As human trafficking is still considered a hidden crime, 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, nearly as many clients were served during the July 2015–June 2016 reporting period as were served collectively during the first 10 years of the program (5,655 clients versus 5,756 clients, respectively).

The services most frequently provided by grantees included ongoing case management, legal services, housing assistance, and personal items (e.g.,

Through OVC grant funding, we were able to help one 18-year-old leave a trafficking situation by providing her with transitional housing, therapy, and vocational assistance. She is now employed part-time at a restaurant and back in school working towards obtaining her high school diploma. She has also decreased self-harming and began taking care of an urgent medical condition by going regularly to doctor's appointments and adhering to her medication regimen.

— Specialized Services for Victims of Human Trafficking Program grantee

food, clothing, hygiene products). Dental services and employment assistance were among the services least provided, perhaps reflecting challenges in identifying partners to offer these services and barriers to victims accessing these services. The data underscore the need for a wide range of comprehensive services as well as flexibility and planning in advance of victim identification to

During the reporting period, the 69 program grantees reported serving —



**5,655
Total Clients**

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



**3,195
New Clients**

served under the grant for the first time.

Of the clients served —



**78%
Adults**

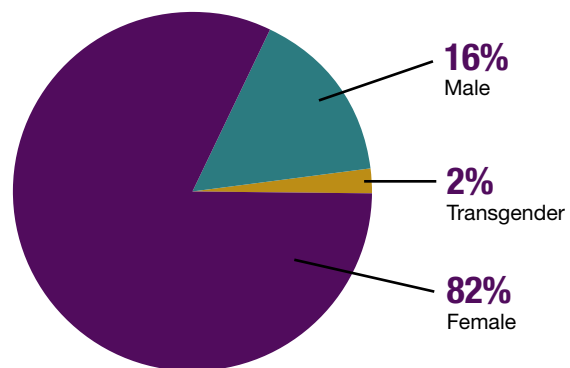
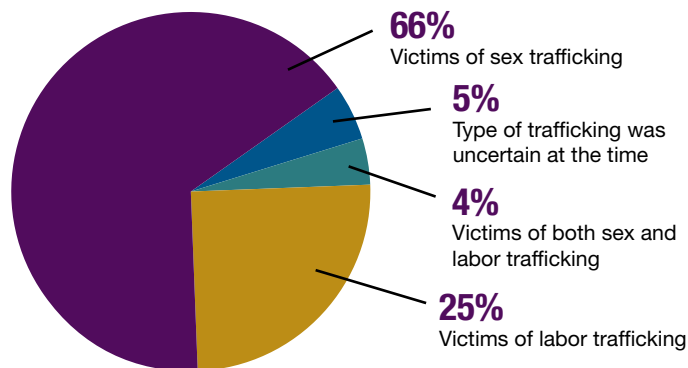
(4,427 clients)



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

(1,228 clients)

Of the 5,655 clients served —



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, program grantees conducted 1,261 trainings for more than 45,000 participants.

OVC's Vision 21 initiative identified the 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.

A labor trafficking survivor was emotionally and psychologically abused by his employer while living in employer-based housing. Through OVC emergency funding we were able to provide immediate relief and connect him with emergency mental health services that were linguistically appropriate, as he was expressing thoughts of suicide. We provided emergency crisis intervention services and the survivor was stabilized and began applying for a T visa.

— Comprehensive Services for All Victims of Human Trafficking Program grantee

The services most frequently provided were —



Ongoing Case Management



Housing Assistance



Legal Services



Personal Items
(e.g., food, clothing, hygiene products)

We received a call from the National Human Trafficking Hotline, patching a victim through who had a window to escape his trafficking situation. He was afraid to call the police, so our case manager was able to talk him through options. While she was on the phone with the victim, other team members got on the phone with our law enforcement partner. With the victim's consent, we paired an agent and a case manager who, together, were able to receive the victim and get him to safety. He is continuing to receive services through the OVC-funded program.

— Enhanced Collaborative Model to Combat Human Trafficking Program grantee

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 April 2017. 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>.