

III

STRATEGIC GOAL 3: Assist State, Local, and Tribal Efforts to Prevent or Reduce Crime and Violence

18% of the Department's Net Costs support this Goal.

To provide leadership in the area of crime prevention and control, the Department of Justice continually searches for ways to strengthen the criminal and juvenile justice capabilities of state, local, and tribal governments. The Department improves the Nation's capacity in this area through the administration of formula and discretionary criminal and juvenile justice grant programs, training, technical assistance, collecting statistics, and testing and evaluating new programs and technologies in order to improve crime fighting and criminal justice system capabilities of state, tribal, and local governments. Illegal drugs can add a major criminal element to a community; to help break the cycle of this social problem the Department provides drug-related resources in prevention and treatment. Further, we also ensure the right of it citizens by providing safeguards to protect the rights of crime victims, and promote programs that help resolve racial tension.

FY 2008 Outcome Goal: Reduce the rate of recidivism for the population served by the Reentry Initiative by 15% (67% to 52%)

Background/Program Objectives: The Serious and Violent Offender Reentry Initiative is a comprehensive effort that addresses both juvenile and adult populations of serious, high-risk offenders. It provides funding to develop, implement, enhance, and evaluate reentry strategies that will ensure the safety of the community and the reduction of serious, violent crime. This is accomplished by preparing targeted offenders to successfully return to their communities after having served a significant period of secure confinement in a state training school, juvenile or adult correctional facility, or other secure institution.

The Reentry Initiative envisions the development of model reentry programs that begin in correctional institutions and continue throughout an offender's transition to, and stabilization in, the community. These programs will provide for individual reentry plans that address issues confronting offenders as they return to the community.

Performance Measure: NEW MEASURE: Percent Reduction in Recidivism for the Population Served by the Reentry Initiative

FY 2004 Target: Establish Baseline

FY 2004 Actual: Baseline established at 2% reduction in reduction in recidivism using FY 2004 actual performance

NEW MEASURE: Percent Reduction in Recidivism for the Population Served by the Reentry Initiative

Data collection and storage: Grantees will report performance measure data via the semi-annual progress report that resides on the Grants Management System.

Data validation and verification: Data are validated and verified through internal desk reviews and on-site monitoring conducted by OJP grant managers.

Data limitations: Although initial workplans for the program required an evaluation component, the performance data will be self-reported by each grantee site.

Discussion: The baseline reflects first year reporting on performance measures by the 69 reentry sites. The baseline was calculated by dividing the number of offenders that recidivated (478) by the number of offenders in the population selected for program participation (31,547) and being served by the Reentry program.

FY 2008 Outcome Goal: Reduce homicides at Weed and Seed Program sites by 5% (as calculated from the first year to the fourth year of the program)

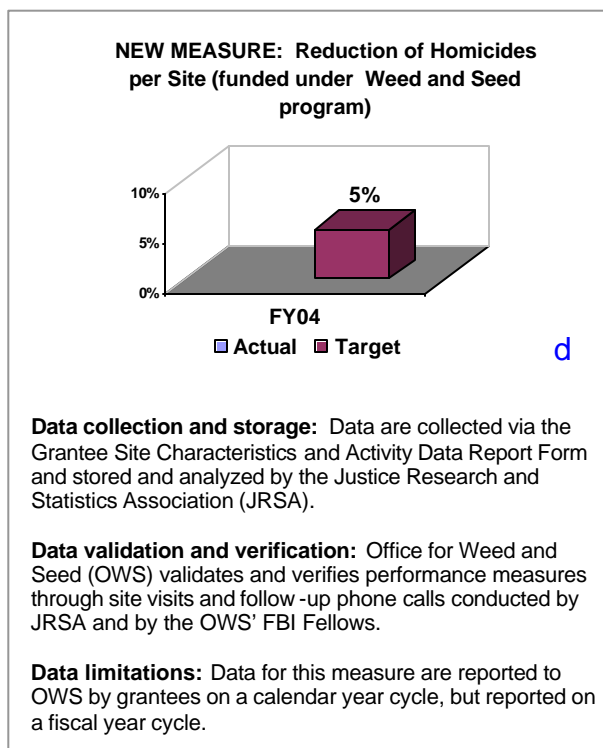
Background/Program Objectives: The Office of Justice Program's (OJP) Weed and Seed strategy assists communities in establishing strategies that link federal, state, and local law enforcement and criminal justice efforts with private sector and community efforts. It assists communities in "weeding out" violent crime, gang activity, drug use, and drug trafficking in targeted neighborhoods and then "seeding" the targeted areas with programs that lead to social and economic rehabilitation and revitalization. In addition to the weeding and seeding aspects of the strategy, the Weed and Seed sites engage in community policing activities that foster proactive police-community engagement and problem solving.

Performance Measure: NEW MEASURE: Reduction of homicides per site (funded under the Weed and Seed program)

FY 2004 Target: 5% reduction in average homicide rate

FY 2004 Actual: Data not available until after December 31, 2004.

Discussion: As of September 30, 2004, only two-thirds of all weed and seed sites provided homicide data. Final FY 2004 actual data for this measure will be available after December 31, 2004. Although weed and seed data are incomplete for this measure, in FY 2004 the baseline to contribute to the FY 2008 long-term outcome measure was established using FY 2003 reported data.



FY 2008 Outcome Goal: Increase Regional Information Sharing Systems (RISS) inquiries

NOTE: This measure was too new to establish a long-term goal in the Strategic Plan, however, it was identified as key measure for the Department and is reported accordingly.

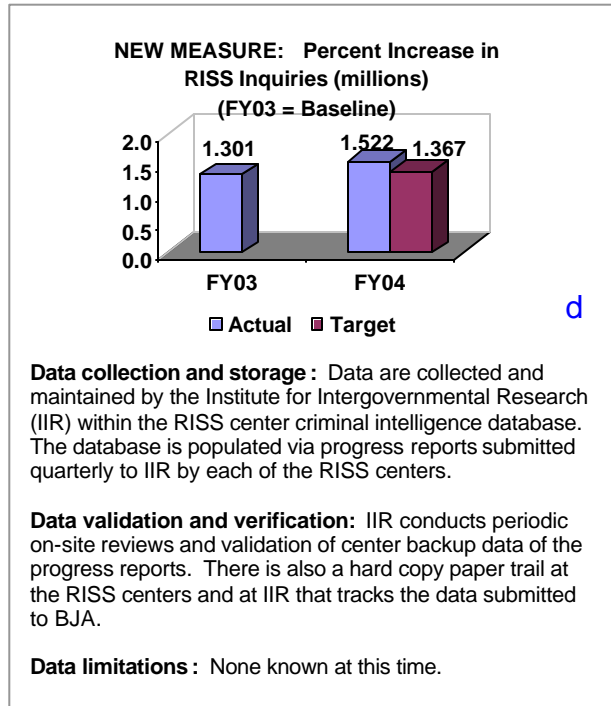
Background/Program Objectives: The Office of Justice Programs' Regional Information Sharing System (RISS) program is a nationwide communications and information-sharing network that serves more than 6,300 law enforcement member agencies from the 50 states, the District of Columbia, the U.S. territories, Canada, Australia, and the United Kingdom. Member agencies benefit from services that focus on regional criminal activity, coupled with the secure technological capability to exchange information internationally. Traditionally, RISS has provided information-sharing services in the form of criminal intelligence databases and an investigative lead-generating electronic bulletin board, analytical services, investigative support, specialized equipment loans, and technical assistance.

Performance Measure: NEW MEASURE: Percent Increase in RISS Inquiries (Baseline = 1,301,444 inquiries)

FY 2004 Target: 5% above FY 2003 Baseline (1,367,000 million inquiries)

FY 2004 Actual: 17% above FY 2003 Baseline (1,521,641 million inquiries)

Discussion: In FY 2004, OJP exceeded its target of 1,366,516 inquiries (or 5% increase) due to an increase in the usage of center database services by RISS member agencies and other users. The primary reason for the swell in usage is due to increased awareness to agencies nationwide. Additionally, OJP has added the intelligence database of the Criminal Information Sharing Alliance network (CISAnet) states and the intelligence database of Utah. This means that users in the CISA states and users in Utah access RISS secure intranet (RISSNET) through their systems and query all RISS center databases.



FY 2008 Outcome Goal: Percent reduction in DNA backlog

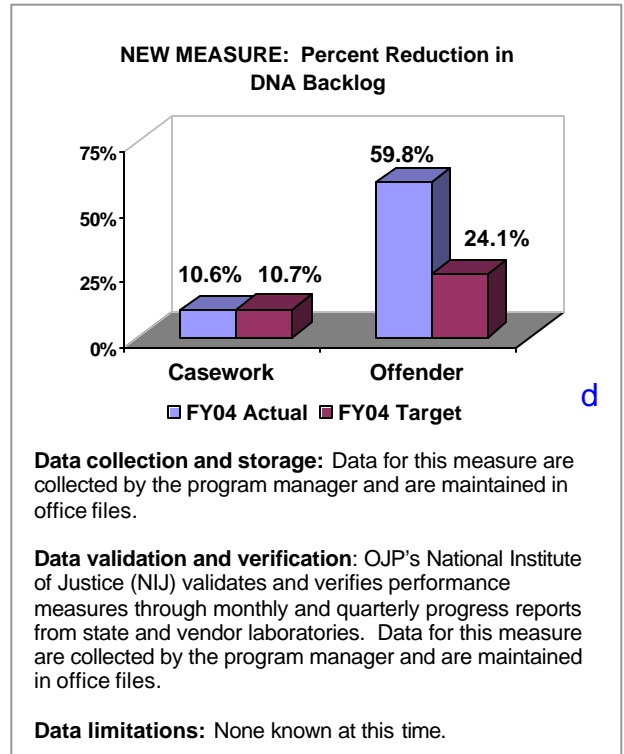
NOTE: This measure was too new to establish a long-term goal in the Strategic Plan, however, it was identified as key measure for the Department and is reported accordingly.

Background/Program Objectives: The DNA Backlog Reduction Program exists to reduce the convicted offender DNA backlog of samples (i.e., physical evidence taken from a convicted offender, such as blood or saliva samples) awaiting analysis and entry into the Combined DNA Index System (CODIS). Reducing the backlog of DNA samples is crucial in supporting a comprehensively successful CODIS system, which can solve old crimes and prevent new ones from occurring. Funds are targeted toward the forensic analysis of all samples identified as urgent priority samples (e.g., samples for homicide and rape/sexual assault cases) in the current backlog of convicted offender DNA samples. Due to ongoing legislative changes in qualifying offenses enacted at the state level (i.e., the addition of classes of offenses from which samples can be collected), the total population of samples collected is constantly growing.

Performance Measure: NEW MEASURE: Percent Reduction in DNA Backlog

FY 2004 Target: Casework: 10.7%
Convicted Offender: 24.1%
FY 2004 Actual: Casework: 10.6%
Convicted Offender: 59.8%

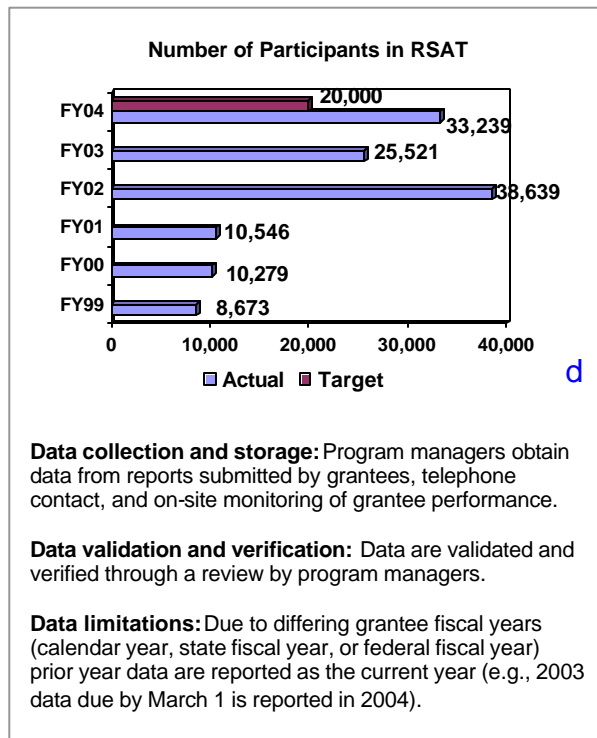
Discussion: OJP has not reached its target of 10.7% for casework due to procurement delays in the states. Many states use the OJP funding for state contracts for outsourcing casework to private labs. Because these contracts were delayed, sending out casework and receiving DNA results were also delayed. OJP exceeded its target of 24.1% offender for convicted offenders due to the outsourcing competition process being restructured thus making it faster and more efficient, thereby resulting in awarding more contracts and funding earlier in the year than anticipated.



FY 2008 Outcome Goal: Increase the number of participants in the Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT) Program

NOTE: This measure was too new to establish a long-term goal in the Strategic Plan, however, it was identified as key measure for the Department and is reported accordingly.

Background/Program Objectives: OJP's RSAT Program formula grant provides funds to be used to implement four types of programs. Of these types, at least 10 percent of the total state allocation will be made available to local correctional and detention facilities (provided such facilities exist) for substance abuse treatment programs. Residential substance abuse treatment programs provide individual and group treatment activities for offenders in residential facilities that are operated by state and local correctional agencies. Secondly, Jail-based substance abuse programs provide individual and group treatment activities for offenders in jails and local correctional facilities. Additionally, a post release treatment component provides treatment following an individual's release from custody. Lastly, an Aftercare component is used requiring states to give preference to subgrant applicants who will provide aftercare services to program participants. Aftercare services must involve coordination between the correctional treatment program and other human service and rehabilitation programs, such as education and job training, parole supervision, halfway houses, self-help, and peer group programs that may aid in rehabilitation.



Performance Measure: Number of Participants in RSAT

FY 2004 Target: 20,000

FY 2004 Actual: 33,239

Discussion: OJP exceeded its target of 20,000 because this was the first full year of the mandatory pass (beginning with FY2003 appropriations) requiring at least 10 percent of the total state allocation to be made available to local correctional and detention facilities (provided such facilities exist) for either residential substance abuse treatment programs or jail-based substance abuse treatment programs; shorter treatment period (3 months vs. 6-12 months); and lower costs of providing jail-based treatment programs.

FY 2008 Outcome Goal: Percent increase in the graduation rate of program participants in the Drug Courts program

NOTE: This measure was too new to establish a long-term goal in the Strategic Plan, however, it was identified as key measure for the Department and is reported accordingly.

Background/Program Objectives: According to the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) published in 2002, there were 5.3 million violent victimizations of residents age 12 or older. Victims of violence were asked to describe whether they perceived the offender to have been drinking or using drugs. About 29% of the victims of violence reported that the offender was using drugs, or drugs in combination with alcohol. These facts demonstrate that the demand for drug treatment services is tremendous. The OJP has a long history of providing drug-related resources to its constituencies in an effort to break the cycle of drugs and violence by reducing the demand, use, and trafficking of illegal drugs.

The drug court movement began as a community-level response to reduce crime and substance abuse among criminal justice offenders. This approach integrated substance abuse treatment, sanctions, and incentives with case processing to place non-violent drug-involved defendants in judicially supervised rehabilitation programs. The traditional system had rarely provided substance abuse treatment to defendants in any systematic way and, in many cases, provided little or no threat of sanctions to drug offenders. The OJP's Drug Court Program was established in 1995 to provide financial and technical assistance to states, state courts, local courts, units of local government, and Indian tribal governments to establish drug treatment courts. Drug courts employ the coercive power of the judicial system to subject non-violent offenders to an integrated mix of treatment, drug testing, incentives, and sanctions to break the cycle of substance abuse and crime. This community-level movement is supported through drug court grants, targeted technical assistance, and training. Since 1989, more than 1,000 jurisdictions have established or are planning to establish a drug court. Currently, every state either has a drug court or is planning a drug court.

Performance Measure: NEW MEASURE: Percent Increase in the Graduation of Drug Courts Program Participants

FY 2004 Target: Establish Baseline

FY 2004 Actual: Baseline not established

NEW MEASURE: Percent Increase in the Graduation Drug Courts Program Participants

Data collection and storage: Program managers obtain data from reports submitted by grantees, telephone contact, and on-site monitoring of grantee performance. In addition, the OJP Drug Court Clearinghouse and technical assistance project provides data to measure performance.

Data validation and verification: Data are validated and verified through a review by program managers.

Data limitations: Evaluative data to support this measure will also be supported by an NIJ study that will begin in 2005.

Discussion: The baseline for this new measure was not established in FY 2004 as originally anticipated. The Drug Court program did not finalize and award grant funding until September 2004; therefore, data for this new measure were not collected.