

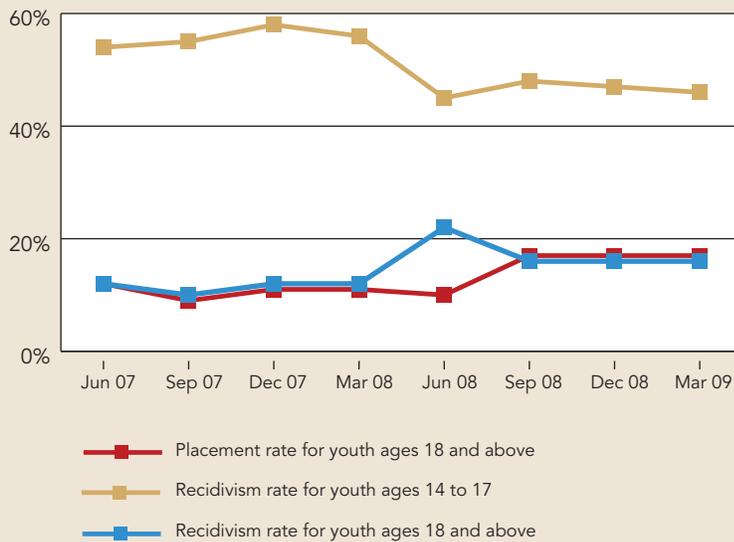
YOUTHFUL OFFENDER INITIATIVE

Program website: http://www.doleta.gov/youthful_offender

PERFORMANCE GOALS

Performance Measure	GPRA Target for PY 2008	Quarter Ending 3/31/08	Quarter Ending 3/31/09
Placement rate for youth ages 18 and above	45%	56%	46%
Recidivism rate for youth ages 14 to 17	22%	12%	16%
Recidivism rate for youth ages 18 and above	10%	11%	17%

PERFORMANCE PROGRESS – PAST EIGHT QUARTERS



ANALYSIS

- The Placement Rate for youth ages 18 and above has dropped ten percentage points in the past year.
 - Much of this drop in the placement rate is due to the current recession, with more highly qualified unemployed persons now seeking work and fewer companies now hiring. Further these youthful offender projects disproportionately serve minority individuals, and the employment rates of minority groups are particularly affected by economic downturns.
 - Also, the youthful offender appropriation funds a variety of projects, some aimed at more at-risk populations than others, and changes in the placement rate over time reflect in large part changes in the mix of projects being funded at any given time rather than changes over time in the placement rates of particular projects.
- The Recidivism Rate change from last year reflects different ways of calculating the recidivism rate and changes in the composition of projects being funded.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Employment and Training Administration uses its Youthful Offender appropriation to fund a variety of projects serving both in-school and out-of-school young offenders. These projects are aimed towards supporting both young offenders and at-risk youth, mainly ages 14 to 24, who are in the juvenile justice system or in the adult criminal justice system.

Youthful offender projects currently operating under this appropriation include grants to start or enhance six alternative schools for juvenile offenders, replicate six model juvenile offender projects in additional sites, start apprenticeship programs in prison in four states; reduce the involvement of youth in gangs and violence in the five school districts, and serve returning young adult offenders through faith-based and secular organizations.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS/INNOVATIONS

Beneficiary Choice Grants allow young adult offenders to choose between faith-based and secular organizations to receive assistance when they return home from prison. Participants will receive case management services from the grantee, and will choose among contracted specialized service providers for more in-depth services.

DOL has also been providing technical assistance to school-based grants in gang prevention efforts.