

2008

Domestic Violence Counts
The National Census of Domestic Violence Services

Oregon Summary

On September 17, 2008, 28 out of 48, or 58%, of identified domestic violence programs in Oregon participated in the 2008 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information provided by 28 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

1,277 Victims Served In One Day

536 domestic violence victims found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.

741 adults and children received non-residential assistance and services, including individual counseling, legal advocacy, and children's support groups.

Percentage of Participating Programs Providing These Services On the Census Day

75%	Emergency Shelter (including hotels or safe houses)
75%	Advocacy Related to Public Benefits/TANF/Welfare
71%	Children's Support or Advocacy
57%	Advocacy Related to Mental Health
54%	Legal Accompaniment/Services
50%	Advocacy Related to Child Welfare/CPS
36%	Advocacy Related to School System
36%	Advocacy Related to Substance Abuse

491 Hotline Calls Answered

Domestic violence hotlines are a lifeline for victims in danger, providing support, information, safety planning, and resources. In the 24-hour survey period, domestic violence programs answered more than 20 hotline calls every hour.

406 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 406 individuals in communities across Oregon attended 13 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

344 Unmet Requests for Services In One Day

Many programs reported a critical shortage of funds and staff to assist victims in need of services such as transportation, childcare, language translation, mental health and substance abuse counseling, and legal representation. Of these unmet requests, 260 were from victims seeking emergency shelter or transitional housing.

Programs reported that lack of staffing was a reason that they could not meet domestic violence victims' request for services. 79% of programs have less than 20 paid staff, including 46% of programs that have less than 10 paid staff. The average starting salary of a full-time, salaried front-line advocate is \$24,053.

"During the survey day, a woman who was in danger called us. I was able to arrange transportation with another social service agency and get her a safe place to stay. While I was helping her, I missed a call from another survivor. If we had more staffing, we can help everyone who calls."

"Survivors in our community come to us with the hope that we can help with financial problems, such as rent, court fees, etc. We don't have the resources to help and after calling other agencies in the area, no funding is available elsewhere. More and more women and children are living on the street. It is very frustrating."