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Domestic Violence Counts National Summary

On September 10, 2014, 1,697 out of 1,916 (89%) identified domestic violence programs in the United States participated in the 2014 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information provided by these 1,697 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

67,646 Victims Served in One Day

36,608 domestic violence victims found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.

31,038 adults and children received non-residential assistance and services, including counseling, legal advocacy, and children’s support groups.

This chart shows the percentage of programs that provided the following services on the Census Day.

Services Provided by Local Programs:	Sept. 10
Individual Support or Advocacy	98%
Children’s Support or Advocacy	85%
Emergency Shelter	79%
Transportation	55%
Court Advocacy/Legal Accompaniment	53%
Prevention or Education Programs	53%

20,845 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, local and state hotline staff answered 20,845 calls and the National Domestic Violence Hotline staff answered 1,283 calls, averaging more than 15 hotline calls every minute.

23,506 Attended Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 23,506 individuals in communities across the United States and territories attended 1,157 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much-needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

10,871 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day, of which 56% (6,126) were for Housing

Victims made more than 10,000 requests for services—including emergency shelter, housing, transportation, childcare, legal representation, and more—that could not be provided because programs did not have the resources to provide these services. The most frequently requested non-residential services that could not be provided were housing advocacy, legal representation, and financial assistance.

Cause of Unmet Requests for Help

- 🏠 28% reported reduced government funding.
- 🏠 18% reported not enough staff.
- 🏠 18% reported cuts from private funding sources.
- 🏠 14% reported reduced individual donations.

Across the United States, 1,392 staff positions were eliminated in the past year. Most of these positions (76%) were direct service providers, such as shelter staff or legal advocates. This means that there were fewer advocates to answer calls for help or provide needed services.

“Housing is a constant need for domestic violence survivors. We get calls and walk-ins almost every day from women, most with children, who are fleeing abusive situations and are in desperate need of housing. We always have a waiting list.”

—Utah Advocate

