

2008

Domestic Violence Counts
The National Census of Domestic Violence Services

North Carolina Summary

On September 17, 2008, 67 out of 90, or 74%, of identified domestic violence programs in North Carolina participated in the 2008 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information provided by 67 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

1,421 Victims Served In One Day

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

770 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

84%	Emergency Shelter (including hotels or safe houses)
82%	Individual Support or Advocacy
69%	Legal Accompaniment/Services
45%	Children's Support or Advocacy
34%	Advocacy Related to Mental Health
25%	Job Training/Employment Assistance
22%	Advocacy Related to Substance Abuse
13%	Advocacy Related to Immigration

827 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 34 hotline calls every hour.

605 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 605 individuals in communities across North Carolina attended 56 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

178 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, 93 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. 85% of programs have less than 20 paid staff, including 49% of programs that have less than 10 paid staff. The average starting salary of a full-time, salaried front-line advocate is \$25,213.

Attorneys

Victims of domestic violence often need legal assistance with restraining orders and civil and family court matters. Of programs that participated in the Census, only 12% of programs reported being able to regularly connect a victim requesting legal assistance with an attorney.

"We have a month-and-a-half-long waiting list because of high demand for services and a limited number of staff."

"During the survey day, we couldn't provide any transportation because after Hurricane Ike, our area has no gas. We are hoping that a gas tanker will be here in the next day or two."