

'09 Domestic Violence Counts Louisiana Summary

On September 15, 2009, 20 out of 20, or 100%, of identified local domestic violence programs in Louisiana participated in the 2009 National Census of Domestic Violence Services.

1,009 Victims Served in One Day

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

469 adults and children received non-residential assistance and services, including individual 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 15
Emergency Shelter	95%
Transitional Housing	40%
Transportation	75%
Individual Support or Advocacy	90%
Translation/Interpretation Services	20%
Childcare/Daycare	20%
Rural Outreach	50%
Legal Representation by an Attorney	25%

373 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 approximately 16 hotline calls every hour.

341 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 341 individuals in communities across Louisiana attended 27 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

80 Unmet Requests for Services

Many programs reported a critical shortage of funds and staff to assist victims in need of services, such as emergency shelter, housing, transportation, childcare, and legal representation. Of these unmet requests, 52 (65%) were from victims seeking emergency shelter or transitional housing.

Programs were unable to provide services for many reasons, as reported below.

- 🏠 50% reported not enough funding for needed programs and services.
- 🏠 40% reported no available beds or funding for hotels.
- 🏠 40% reported not enough specialized services.
- 🏠 20% reported not enough staff.
- 🏠 15% reported limited funding for translators, bilingual staff, or accessible equipment.

"After 3 weeks of advocacy and support, a survivor made the courageous decision to leave her abuser and her home to enter our shelter."

"Many of the survivors we serve have no health insurance for themselves and their children. Many have no choice but to go without healthcare or medicine."