

'09 Domestic Violence Counts New York Summary

On September 15, 2009, 56 out of 115, or 49%, of identified local domestic violence programs in New York participated in the 2009 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information provided by the 56 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

3,397 Victims Served in One Day

1,543 domestic violence victims found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.

1,854 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
Individual Support or Advocacy	89%
Emergency Shelter	70%
Legal Accompaniment/Services	77%
Advocacy Related to Public Benefits/TANF/Welfare	63%
Financial Skills/Budgeting	23%
Transitional Housing	32%
Advocacy/Support for Teen Victims of Dating Violence	13%
Advocacy Related to Housing Office/Landlord	55%

1,549 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 65 hotline calls every hour.

625 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 625 individuals in communities across New York attended 34 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

678 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, 368 (54%) were from victims seeking emergency shelter or transitional housing.

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

- 39% reported not enough funding for needed programs and services.
- 36% reported no available beds or funding for hotels.
- 27% reported not enough staff.
- 20% reported not enough specialized services.
- 13% reported limited funding for translators, bilingual staff, or accessible equipment.

"A victim was punched, kicked, and strangled by her abuser. She was arrested because she grabbed a knife to defend herself. The abuser had a superficial cut on his arm while she was covered in bruises."

"We shut down one of our nonresidential program because of lack of funding."