

'09 Domestic Violence Counts Texas Summary

On September 15, 2009, 90 out of 103, or 87%, of identified local domestic violence programs in Texas participated in the 2009 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information provided by the 90 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

5,431 Victims Served in One Day

3,183 domestic violence victims found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.

2,248 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	82%
Emergency Shelter	70%
Children's Support or Advocacy	69%
Transportation	62%
Advocacy Related to Public Benefits/TANF/Welfare	62%
Group Support or Advocacy	59%
Court Accompaniment/Advocacy	49%
Therapy/Counseling for Adults (by licensed practitioner)	49%

1,992 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 83 hotline calls every hour.

4,221 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 4,221 individuals in communities across Texas attended 143 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

784 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, 438 (56%) were from victims seeking emergency shelter or transitional housing.

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

- 41% reported not enough funding for needed programs and services.
- 30% reported not enough staff.
- 24% reported not enough specialized services.
- 20% reported no available beds or funding for hotels.
- 10% reported limited funding for translators, bilingual staff, or accessible equipment.

"We have a client who is battling breast cancer, but her health insurance coverage is through her abusive husband, and she's not eligible for free or low-cost healthcare. She feels trapped because without his medical insurance she'll die, but if she returns to him, she fears she'll die from the abuse."

"The police brought a woman and her three children to us today. They were hiding under a boat after being beaten. We helped transport them to a safe shelter."