

2008

Domestic Violence Counts
The National Census of Domestic Violence Services

Arizona Summary

On September 17, 2008, 25 out of 32, or 78%, of identified domestic violence programs in Arizona participated in the 2008 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information provided by these 25 participating residential programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

1,416 Victims Served In One Day

1,230 domestic violence victims found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.

186 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

100%	Individual Support or Advocacy
68%	Advocacy Related to Public Benefits/TANF/Welfare
52%	Legal Accompaniment/Services
48%	Transitional Housing
44%	Job Training/Employment Assistance
40%	Advocacy Related to Mental Health
32%	Advocacy Related to Immigration
24%	Advocacy Related to Substance Abuse

283 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 12 hotline calls every hour.

318 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 318 individuals in communities across Arizona attended 19 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

119 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, 115 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. 56% of programs have less than 20 paid staff, including 24% of programs that have less than 10 paid staff. Because residential programs generally have a large staff, the economic impact on services to individuals and families will be significant if budgets are slashed. The average starting salary of a full-time, salaried front-line advocate is \$21,828.

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 4% of programs reported being able to regularly connect a victim requesting legal assistance with an attorney.

"A client was visiting a local park with her two children when her abuser tracked her down and attempted to ram her with his car. The police were called but they refused to enforce the order of protection."

