

'09 Domestic Violence Counts Tennessee Summary

On September 15, 2009, 33 out of 33, or 100%, of identified local domestic violence programs in Tennessee participated in the 2009 National Census of Domestic Violence Services.

831 Victims Served in One Day

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

456 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	85%
Individual Support or Advocacy	82%
Advocacy Related to Immigration	21%
Transitional Housing	36%
Advocacy Related to Housing Office/Landlord	39%
Court Accompaniment/Advocacy	55%
Rural Outreach	30%
Advocacy Related to Child Welfare/Protective Services	24%

414 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 17 hotline calls every hour.

302 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 302 individuals in communities across Tennessee attended 20 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

51 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, 40 (78%) were from victims seeking emergency shelter or transitional housing.

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

- 🏠 24% reported no available beds or funding for hotels.
- 🏠 24% reported not enough funding for needed programs and services.
- 🏠 18% reported not enough specialized services.
- 🏠 15% reported limited funding for translators, bilingual staff, or accessible equipment.
- 🏠 12% reported not enough staff.

“On the Census Day, we worked with Child Protective Services so that a family of four could come to the shelter and escape a very dangerous situation. If they could not come to the shelter, the mother and children would have been separated.”

“Lack of insurance and high healthcare costs prohibit many survivors from receiving needed medical care. Those who need dental services just suffer in pain because they can't afford treatment.”