

# '14

## Domestic Violence Counts Texas Summary

On September 10, 2014, 78 out of 93 (84%) identified local domestic violence programs in Texas participated in the 2014 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information reported by the 78 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

### 4,867 Victims Served in One Day

3,107 domestic violence victims (1,727 children and 1,380 adults) found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.

1,760 adults and children received non-residential assistance and services, including 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. 10
Individual Support or Advocacy	99%
Children’s Support or Advocacy	90%
Emergency Shelter	82%
Prevention Services and/or Educational Programs	64%
Bilingual Advocacy	64%
Advocacy Related to Mental Health	42%
Advocacy Related to Immigration	32%
Transitional Housing	32%

### 1,517 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, local and state hotlines answered 1,517 calls, averaging more than 63 hotline calls every hour.

### 1,598 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 1,598 individuals in communities across Texas attended 78 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much-needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

### 1,516 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day, of Which 34% (515) Were for Housing

Victims made more than 1,500 requests for services, including emergency shelter, transitional housing, and non-residential services, which could not be provided because programs did not have the resources to provide these services. The most frequently needed service that couldn’t be provided was housing, followed by legal representation.

#### Cause of Unmet Requests for Help

- 19% reported reduced government funding.
- 15% reported cuts from private funding sources.
- 12% reported not enough staff.
- 10% reported reduced individual donations.

Across Texas, 62 staff positions were eliminated in the past year; most of these positions were direct services (76%), such as shelter or legal advocates, so there were fewer advocates to answer calls for help. Sixty-eight individual services at local programs were reduced or eliminated in the past year.

“A woman walked in with her baby. She was so grateful to have found us. She had been asking others for help for a number of days. Finally an agency we work closely with referred her to us. She wanted to know her options. Her husband was out of town so she was safe for now. She worked with an advocate on safety planning and put a plan in place. She had the hotline number and was going to get things together if she needed to leave suddenly. She had an appointment with a lawyer to discuss her options if she chose a divorce.”

— Advocate

