



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COUNTS REPORT

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On September 10, 2020, 1,665 out of 1,921 (87%) identified domestic violence programs in the United States participated in a national count of domestic violence services conducted by the National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV). Services provided by domestic violence programs looked different in 2020, as frontline advocates navigated unforeseen challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic and other crises. The following figures represent the information shared by the participating programs about the services they provided during the 24-hour survey period.

76,525 Victims Served in One Day

38,586 adult and child victims of domestic violence found refuge in emergency shelters, transitional housing, or other housing provided by local domestic violence programs.

37,939 adult and child victims received non-residential assistance and services, including counseling, legal advocacy, children’s support groups, and more.

Table 1: Services Provided on 9/10/20	% of Programs Providing Services
Emergency Shelter	75%
Children’s Support or Advocacy	52%
Court Accompaniment or Legal Advocacy	48%
Support/Advocacy Related to Housing/Landlord	46%
Transportation	45%

21,321 Hotline Contacts Received

Domestic violence hotlines are a lifeline for victims in danger, providing support, information, safety planning, and resources via phone, chat, text, and/or email. During the 24-hour survey period: local, state, and territorial hotline staff received **19,478** contacts; NNEDV’s WomensLaw legal Email Hotline received **19** emails; and National

Domestic Violence Hotline staff received **1,824** contacts. Altogether, hotline staff received an average of almost **15** contacts every minute of the survey day.

10,091 Individuals Attended Prevention and Educational Trainings

On the survey day, despite the limitations caused by the pandemic, local domestic violence programs educated **10,091** individuals in communities across the United States. Advocates provided **775** trainings that addressed domestic violence prevention, early intervention, and more. While substantially fewer than in previous years, this represents a triumph of programs still finding ways to reach their communities.

11,047 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day

Victims made **11,047** requests for services—including emergency shelter, housing, transportation, childcare, legal representation, and more—that could not be provided because programs lacked the resources to meet victims’ needs. Approximately 57 percent of these unmet requests were for housing and emergency shelter.

Greatly increased funding would enable domestic violence programs to provide comprehensive services to all survivors seeking help and to prevent violence in their communities.

✘ **From an advocate in Washington, DC: “We need more funding and support, especially for culturally specific programs. Our organization is underfunded, but we’re making it work in order to serve survivors who are counting on us during this unprecedented time.”**