



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COUNTS REPORT PUERTO RICO SUMMARY

On September 10, 2020, 14 out of 19 (74%) identified domestic violence programs in Puerto Rico 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.

652 Victims Served in One Day

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

445 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
Support/Advocacy Related to Mental Health	11%
Support/Advocacy to Victims of Trafficking	0%
Support/Advocacy Related to Immigration	0%

37 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, hotline staff in Puerto Rico received 37 contacts, averaging 2 contacts per hour.

37 Individuals Attended Prevention and Educational Trainings

Community education is essential to raising awareness about domestic violence and the resources that are available to victims, while promoting prevention strategies. On the survey day, local domestic violence programs educated 37 individuals in communities across Puerto Rico. Advocates provided 4 trainings that addressed domestic violence prevention, early intervention, and more.

23 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day

Victims made 23 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 78 percent of these unmet requests were for housing or 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.

❖ “Las circunstancias presentes evidencian la desigualdad en la que se encuentran las mujeres. Además de ser históricamente marginadas, las mujeres de hoy día se han visto obligadas a permanecer en sus hogares cuidando y asistiendo a sus hijos en el proceso de educación. Esto trae a la luz la sociedad patriarcal en la que nos encontramos sumergidas/os.”