



# DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COUNTS National Summary

On September 13, 2017, 1,694 out of 1,873 **(90%)** identified domestic violence programs in the United States participated in the National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information provided by these 1,694 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

## 72,245 Victims Served in One Day

**40,470** adult and child victims of domestic violence found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.

**31,775** adult and child victims received non-residential assistance and services, including counseling, legal advocacy, and children’s support groups.

Percentage (%) of Programs Providing	On Census Day
Children’s Support or Advocacy	84%
Emergency Shelter	77%
Transportation	54%
Court Advocacy/Legal Accompaniment	53%
Prevention or Education Programs	48%
Transitional and Other Housing	38%
Therapy/Counseling for Adults (by a licensed practitioner)	30%

## 20,352 Hotline Calls Answered

Domestic violence hotlines are a lifeline for victims in danger, providing support, information, safety planning, and resources. During the 24-hour survey period, local and state hotline staff answered **19,147** calls and

National Domestic Violence Hotline staff answered **2,205** calls.<sup>1</sup> This averages more than **14** calls every minute.

## 24,030 Attended Prevention and Education Trainings

On Census Day, local domestic violence programs educated **24,030** individuals in communities across the United States. Advocates provided **1,240** trainings that addressed domestic violence prevention, early intervention, and more.

## 11,441 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day, of which 7,416 (65%) were for Housing

Victims made **11,441** 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.

In the past year, **1,077** staff positions were laid off or went unfilled nationwide. Most of these positions **(62%)** were direct service providers, such as shelter staff or legal advocates. This means that there were fewer advocates to answer calls for help or provide needed services.

❖ **From an advocate in Florida: “A survivor came to our shelter after living on the streets for 8 years with her abusive partner. She was so grateful for the clothing and new shoes we provided that she cried. She’s about to move into safe housing.”**

<sup>1</sup> National Domestic Violence Hotline Staff answered 1,798 calls and 407 chats or texts.