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Domestic Violence Counts California Summary

On September 10, 2014, 120 out of 120 (100%) identified local domestic violence programs in California participated in the 2014 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information reported by the 120 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

5,784 Victims Served in One Day

2,964 domestic violence victims (1,712 children and 1,252 adults) found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.

2,820 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
Children’s Support or Advocacy	93%
Bilingual Advocacy	65%
Prevention Services and/or Educational Programs	63%
Transitional Housing	49%
Advocacy Related to Immigration	28%
Support/Advocacy to Teen Victims of Dating Violence	24%
Financial Skills/Budgeting	19%

1,910 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 1,910 calls, averaging more than 79 hotline calls every hour.

2,608 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 2,608 individuals in communities across California attended 145 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much-needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

1,216 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day, of Which 55% (669) Were for Housing

Victims made more than 1,200 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

- 37% reported reduced government funding.
- 25% reported cuts from private funding sources.
- 23% reported not enough staff.
- 13% reported reduced individual donations.

Across California, 147 staff positions were eliminated in the past year; most of these positions were direct services (77%), such as shelter or legal advocates, so there were fewer advocates to answer calls for help. One hundred forty-seven individual services at local programs were reduced or eliminated in the past year.

“Domestic violence service providers are confronted daily with families who have complex needs and must often operate in environments where resources are scarce. Programs are working across service systems to better address the needs of this vulnerable population, but there are still major gaps in services and many victims’ needs are not being met.”

— Advocate

