

'09 Domestic Violence Counts Maine Summary

On September 15, 2009, 9 out of 9, or 100%, of identified local domestic violence programs in Maine participated in the 2009 National Census of Domestic Violence Services.

569 Victims Served in One Day

255 domestic violence victims found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.

314 adults and children received non-residential assistance and services, including individual 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 15
Individual Support or Advocacy	100%
Emergency Shelter	78%
Transitional Housing	89%
Advocacy Related to Child Welfare/Protective Services	89%
Advocacy Related to Housing Office/Landlord	78%
Advocacy Related to Public Benefits/TANF/Welfare	56%
Advocacy/Support for Teen Victims of Dating Violence	33%
Legal Representation by an Attorney	33%

115 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, domestic violence programs answered approximately 5 hotline calls every hour.

117 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 117 individuals in communities across Maine attended 9 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

30 Unmet Requests for Services

Many programs reported a critical shortage of funds and staff to assist victims in need of services, such as emergency shelter, housing, transportation, childcare, and legal representation. Of these unmet requests, 16 (53%) were from victims seeking emergency shelter or transitional housing.

Programs were unable to provide services for many reasons, as reported below.

- 🏠 78% reported not enough staff.
- 🏠 56% reported not enough funding for needed programs and services.
- 🏠 33% reported not enough specialized services.
- 🏠 22% reported no available beds or funding for hotels.
- 🏠 11% reported limited funding for translators, bilingual staff, or accessible equipment.

"Affordable housing is a huge crisis for the people we serve. Our shelter is always full, and there are no housing vouchers available for residents to be able to attain housing."

"Many survivors lose custody of their children to their abusers because they can't afford lawyers or court fees. The costs of obtaining and filing court documents pro se have doubled here."