



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COUNTS REPORT NEW JERSEY SUMMARY

On September 10, 2020, 25 out of 27 (93%) identified domestic violence programs in New Jersey 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.

1,184 Victims Served in One Day

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

701 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	67%
Court Accompaniment or Legal Advocacy	67%
Children’s Support or Advocacy	59%
Transitional or Other Housing	44%

448 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 New Jersey received 448 contacts, averaging 19 contacts per hour.

❖ “For many survivors we work with, staying at home during the pandemic created additional stress and forced them to stay with abusive partners. The fear and anxiety of what lies ahead, with a possible second wave and continued financial hardships, are causing our clients to be more traumatized than ever before.”

227 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 227 individuals in communities across New Jersey. Advocates provided 10 trainings that addressed domestic violence prevention, early intervention, and more.

66 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day

Victims made 66 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 17 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.