



NEW YORK STATE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE DASHBOARD PROJECT 2007 DATA

Introduction

We are pleased to introduce you to New York State's Domestic Violence Dashboard project. The only way to know whether we are making progress in achieving our goal of ensuring that all New Yorkers can feel safe in their intimate relationships is to keep an eye on key indicators over time. Many in the public and private sectors are developing "dashboards" – a series of measurements that give us a quick look at whether we are heading in the right direction.

New York State vigorously responds to domestic violence with over 550 police departments, 99 domestic violence hotlines, more than 200 hospital emergency rooms, and over 1,000 specialized courts. However, this large and decentralized system can make measurement challenging. For the first time New York State government agencies have compiled solid information from a range of systems regarding both the prevalence of domestic violence, and the strength of New York State's response. This is our first attempt to develop such indicators, and we will continue to publish this report annually. By next year we plan to release a dashboard that begins to map trends and measure our progress.

The 2007 data serves as a snapshot of one year's worth of information for New York State. The source agency for data referenced in each statement is indicated at the end of the sentence; published source material is listed separately at the end of the document. All statistics cited are for the 2007 calendar year unless otherwise indicated. The criteria for inclusion in this document were that the figures be comparable across systems; that the data refer to "intimate partner violence" (IPV), not the broader domestic violence, which can also include other familial violence; that the data be relevant; and that it be as precise as possible. These numbers show that New York State, like all other communities, is suffering a substantial amount of intimate partner violence, but also that New York is actively and vigorously responding to domestic violence.

Following is a brief explanation of some of the systems from which the data on domestic violence is captured.

Public Safety Data

Certain types of domestic violence behavior is criminal, and police, sheriffs, probation and parole officers, and prosecutors all invest substantial resources into responding to these cases. In 2008, DCJS published a report analyzing 2007 domestic violence homicides, broken down into three categories: intimate partners, homicides of children, and other family relationships. OPDV looked most closely at the data regarding Intimate Partner (IP) homicide, and has highlighted that information. In order to ensure ongoing and consistent response to IPV, all criminal justice agencies recognize the importance of ongoing training. This report indicates the minimum amount of training on domestic violence required of all police and probation officers, however, many departments far exceed the minimum.

Product of the New York State Domestic Violence Advisory Council

Goals of the Advisory Council are:

- *Make recommendations regarding strategies for the prevention of domestic violence.*
- *Assist in the development of appropriate policies and priorities for effective intervention, public education and advocacy.*
- *Facilitate and assure communication and coordination efforts among state agencies and between different levels of government, state, federal, and municipal, for the prevention of domestic violence.*

The information on orders of protection is particularly complicated. Under Executive Law § 221 many orders of protection (OPs) are required to be listed in the statewide order of protection registry (support, paternity, custody and visitation, guardianship, and OP cases in family court, and domestic violence cases from criminal court). Most of those protect an individual against their intimate partner, but some may protect a child against a parent or other guardian. The Office of Court Administration calls orders that must be filed with the registry “required”. Other orders of protection issued against unrelated parties such as neighbors are “not required” to be filed with the registry. For the purpose of this document, we chose to list only required orders of protections and separate out temporary from final orders. Individuals may receive multiple temporary orders before the issuance of a final order. However, to make the data somewhat clearer, we only list the initial temporary order arising out of each incident. We also list all final orders issued in 2007.

Public Health and Welfare Data

In this section we cite to several national sources of information in order to put some context around NYS data. We also include NYC data when statewide data is not yet available. Highlights include the first time domestic violence hotline calls have been aggregated – more precision will be available next year. Information regarding the public assistance system refers to waivers, which are available due to NYS’s adoption of the federal Family Violence Option. All individuals in NYS seeking temporary cash assistance are asked if they are currently in danger due to domestic violence. Those who say “yes” can meet with a specially-trained domestic violence liaison (DVL), and may be able to opt out of some of the typical public assistance requirements if those requirements would be dangerous for them – that opt-out is called a “waiver”.

Most direct services to domestic violence victims, such as advocacy, counseling, legal representation, housing assistance, and case management, are provided by a strong network of non-profit providers across the state. The majority of nonprofits that service domestic violence victims are certified by the NYS Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS), either as residential providers (offering emergency shelter) and/or non-residential services (all other support services). OCFS regulations govern certain minimum requirements of these programs which, if met, entitle the programs to access State reimbursement. There is also a wide array of nonprofit and faith-based services that are not State-regulated; the work of those providers is not represented here.

Finally, data is, as always, only part of the story. New York State is a leader in the field of domestic violence, and has achieved much in the way of policy, legislation, training and program development in 2008. We hope that those changes will eventually be reflected in the data regarding prevalence and response-- in other words that improved laws will mean more offenders held accountable, and more victims staying safe – but that connection can only be made over time.



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PUBLIC SAFETY

Homicides

In NYS, 43% of all adult women murdered were killed by intimate partners. (DCJS)

Females were victims in 81% of the 72 intimate partner homicides in the State. (DCJS)

Intimate partner homicides represented 9% of all homicides in the state. (DCJS)

Law Enforcement

Annually an estimated 400,000 domestic incidents are reported to NYS law enforcement. (DCJS 2005-2006)

Domestic violence involving intimate partners represents 26% of sexual and other assaultive offenses reported to police in many NYS jurisdictions outside NYC. (DCJS)

Over 9,500 law enforcement officers and other criminal justice professionals were trained on responding to domestic violence. (OPDV, DCJS, NYSP, NYPD)

Police officers from accredited departments receive at least 14 hours of domestic violence training. (DCJS)

All new probation officers received 5 hours of domestic violence training. (DPCA)

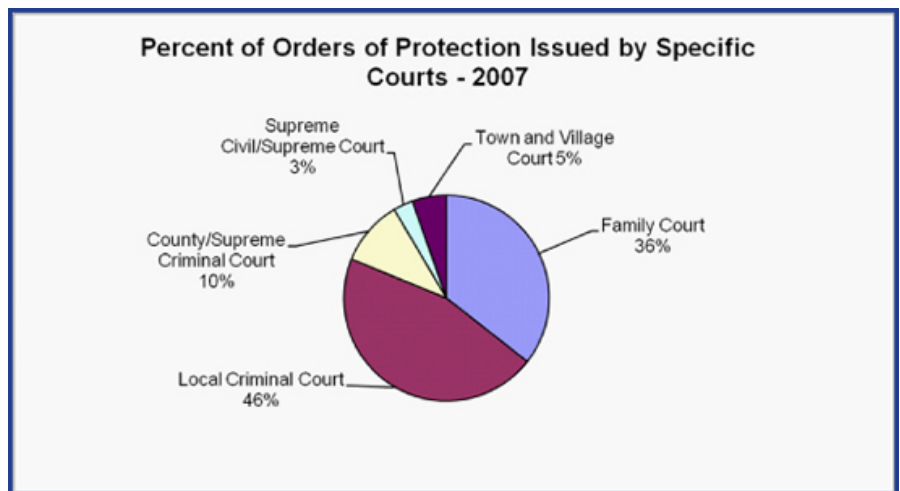
Courts

The 31 operational Domestic Violence Courts in New York handled over 23,500 cases. (OCA)

The 41 Integrated Domestic Violence (IDV) Courts have handled over 16,300 cases and served approximately 3,000 families. (OCA)

Almost 90% of the residents of New York State live in counties served by operating IDV Courts. (OCA)

New York State courts issued a total of 205,799 orders of protection, of which 164,331 were required to be recorded in the USC's Domestic Violence Registry. (OCA)



Orders of Protection in UCS's Domestic Violence Registry with an Issue Date 1/1/07 - 12/31/07 (Required)			
	Temporary	Final	Total
Family Court Statewide	46,757	11,731	58,488
Local Criminal Court Statewide	63,166	11,773	74,939
County/Supreme Criminal Court Statewide	13,188	3,768	16,956
Supreme Civil/Supreme Court Statewide	3,364	1,725	5,089
Town and Village Court Statewide	6,906	1,953	8,859
Total			164,331

PUBLIC HEALTH & WELFARE

Health Care

Nearly 4,000 women were treated in NYC emergency departments for injuries they acknowledged were due to intimate partner violence. (DOHMH 2005)

Public Assistance

The number of applicants for public assistance who indicated danger due to domestic violence was 14,836. (OTDA)

Family Violence Option waivers were granted to 8,578 applicants under the Temporary Assistance Program. (OTDA)

Statewide there are over 100 Domestic Violence Liaisons (DVLs). Nearly 600 DVLs and other public assistance workers were trained on domestic violence. (OPDV, OTDA)

National studies indicate that nearly 25% of welfare clients had experienced threats or physical violence from a partner within the past year, and that 15% had experienced severe physical violence.

Domestic Violence Services

Domestic violence victims received services at 285 programs ranging from general crime victims programs to certified domestic violence programs. Services included crime victim assistance, information, referral, counseling, advocacy, and community education and outreach services. (DCJS, OCFS, CVB)

Direct financial assistance was provided to domestic violence crime victims for over 1,200 claims and to sexual assault crime victims for over 450 claims amounting to over 2.5 million dollars. (CVB)

NYS' two Domestic and Sexual Violence Hotlines and NYC's Domestic Violence hotline received 140,546 calls combined. The 96 local domestic violence hotlines annually receive approximately 160,000 calls. (OCFS, OPDV, NYCOCDV)

Domestic Violence Shelter Services

There are 159 certified shelter programs in the state with a total capacity of 2,907 beds, 10 transitional housing programs with 541 beds, and 5 safe home networks with 36 safe homes. (OCFS)

Certified shelter providers in New York State housed 7,282 adults and 8,721 children. (OCFS)

Children

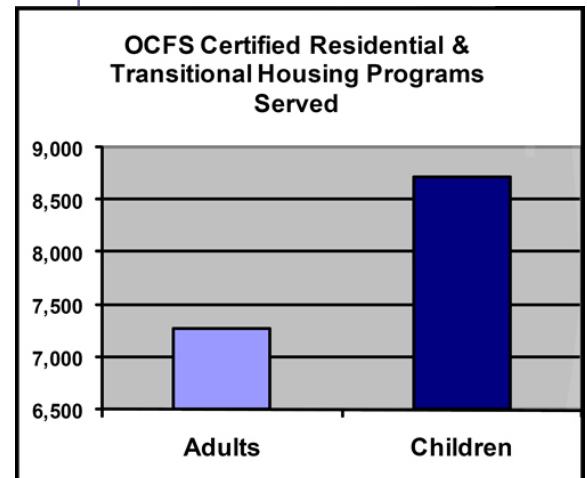
Nearly 1,700 child welfare workers were trained on the overlap of domestic violence and child abuse and maltreatment. (OPDV, ACS)

National studies indicate a link between child maltreatment and intimate partner violence, finding a 30-60% overlap, depending on the families studied.

More than half of the people served in shelters were children. (OCFS)

National studies indicate 59% of households with children under the age of 12 experience intimate partner violence.

National studies indicate that children exposed to intimate partner violence are more likely than other children to have difficulty in relationships with others and poor school performance.



Dating Violence

Since 1999, physical dating violence reported by public high school females in NYC has risen almost 50%. (DOHMH 2005)

NYC public high school females reporting physical dating violence were three times more likely to attempt suicide than those who did not report physical dating violence. (DOHMH 2005)

Source Material

Public Safety

NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services, *Domestic Violence Homicide in NYS 2007*, November 2008. www.criminaljustice.state.ny.us/crimnet/pubs.htm

NYS Unified Court System, Integrated Domestic Violence Courts, http://www.courts.state.ny.us/courts/problem_solving/idv/home.shtml, accessed 12/5/08.

Public Health & Welfare

Edelson, J. L. (2006). *Emerging Responses to Children Exposed to Domestic Violence*, VAWNET, National Online Resource Center on Violence Against Women.

Edelson, J. L., (1999). The overlap between child maltreatment and woman battering. *Violence Against Women*, 5(2), 134-154.

Lindhorst, Taryn, Marcia Meyers and Erin Casey. Screening for Domestic Violence in Public Welfare Offices: An Analysis of Case Manager and Client Interactions. *Violence Against Women* 2008; 14 (1); 5-28.

New York City Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence http://www.nyc.gov/html/ocdv/html/statistics_resources/fact_sheet.shtml

NYS Office of Children and Family Services, *The Domestic Violence Prevention Act 2007 Report to the Governor and Legislature*. http://www.ocfs.state.ny.us/main/reports/2007_domestic_violence_report.pdf

Report from the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, *Intimate Partner Violence Against Women in New York City*, 2008. <http://www.nyc.gov/html/doh/downloads/pdf/public/ipv-08.pdf>

US Dept. of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Intimate Partner Violence in the US*, <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/intimate/victims.htm#age12> (visited 2007).