

## Introduction from the Executive Director

August, 2015

The 2014 annual New York State Domestic Violence Dashboard contains data from 2007 through 2014. After eight years of collecting information from a broad range of agencies, many trends confirm what providers are seeing in the field. We also continue to add information each year as more agencies include screening for domestic violence into their regular practice.



In 2014, the number of intimate partner homicides was at its lowest point since reporting began in 2008, and although strangulation offenses charged in arrests and arraignments were up slightly in NYC, they were down 4% in rest of state. Similarly, while use of firearms in intimate partner homicides increased slightly from 32% in 2012 to 32.5% in 2013, that number dropped to 29% in 2014. As these numbers have gone down, we have also seen important increases in other areas. For example, the number of domestic violence probation cases added to local probation department caseloads increased 26% from 2012 to 2013 and another 20% in 2014, representing a significant rise in the number of domestic violence offenders under long-term supervision within the community. As a result, a greater number of survivors were able to have ongoing contact with probation as a useful resource when developing or changing their safety plans and staying informed about the status and accountability of their abusers.

Once again, we saw a decrease in the number of hotline calls to the statewide Domestic & Sexual Violence Hotline, as well as to the New York City Domestic Violence Hotline and to the local domestic violence hotlines that are licensed and approved by the NYS Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS). Overall, calls decreased by 7% from 2013 to 2014, 5% of which came from the OCFS-approved local domestic violence hotlines. In 2014, OCFS also maintained the same 162 licensed, residential programs with a total of 3,041 beds, and the same 87 non-residential programs throughout the state. However, the number of adults and children receiving residential domestic violence services dropped 12% from 2013, while the number of adults and children receiving domestic violence non-residential services remained relatively stable with only a slight 0.2% increase. Understandably, the decrease in individuals seeking residential services also resulted in a 4.5% decrease in shelter denials from 2013 to 2014. Since OCFS data was not included in our published 2013 Domestic Violence Dashboard report, we encourage you to refer to the full [Domestic Violence Prevention Act 2013 Annual Report](#) on the OCFS website for more detailed information about the wide range of essential services and resources OCFS provides to adults and children statewide.

Last year, we added a new data point to the Dashboard by partnering with the New York State Office for the Aging (OFA) in an effort to examine whether and how older adults are being screened for domestic violence and what services and resources they are seeking in response. While 2014 data remained relatively stable, we now have the ability to examine trends and needs specific to older adults who are survivors of domestic and family violence, especially important given the growing population of older adults in our communities.

The source agency for data referenced in each statement is indicated at the end of the sentence. Published source material is footnoted. Statistics cited represent data for the 2014 calendar year and are statewide, unless otherwise indicated. The [2007 Dashboard](#) offered a full explanation of each system from which this data was taken, including an explanation of terminology. Since then, we have only explained data points that are new that year.

Thank you for reviewing the eighth annual Dashboard. This comprehensive resource reflects a commitment across agencies to screen for domestic violence, and share their information with all of you. OPDV staff work diligently to compile and present it in a way we hope will be of use. Data is only part of the story, but it is an important part.

Gwen Wright  
Executive Director

New York State Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence

The following agencies contributed to the 2014 NYS Domestic Violence Dashboard:

[NYS Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence \(OPDV\)](#)

[NYS Department of Corrections and Community Supervision \(DOCCS\)](#)

[NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services \(DCJS\)](#)

[NYS Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services \(OASAS\)](#)

[NYS Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance \(OTDA\)](#)

[NYS Office of Children and Family Services \(OCFS\)](#)

[NYS Office of Victim Services \(OVS\)](#)

[NYS Office for the Aging \(OFA\)](#)

[NYS Office of Court Administration \(OCA\)](#)

[Safe Horizon](#)

The Domestic Violence Dashboard Project is a product of the New York State Domestic Violence Advisory Council.

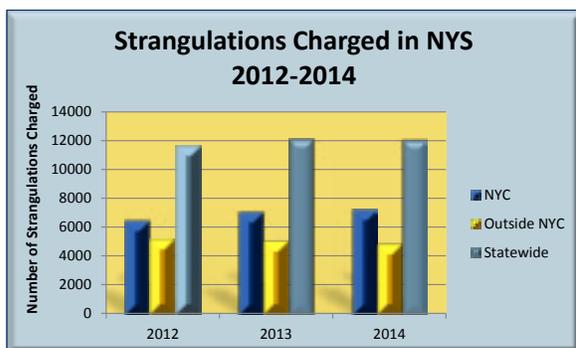
**Goals of the Advisory Council:**

- 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.

## Public Safety

### Strangulation

In 2014, strangulation offenses charged in arrests and arraignments in New York State decreased 0.5% from 2013, with New York City experiencing a 2% increase, while the rest of the state experienced a 4% decrease. (DCJS)



### Homicide

From 2013 to 2014, total homicides decreased 5% statewide from 644 to 612. The number of intimate partner homicides dropped 25%, from 87 to 65 during that same time period. (DCJS)



In 2014, 45% of female homicide victims aged 16 and older were killed by an intimate partner, as compared to 51.5% in 2013. Three percent of male homicide victims were killed by an intimate partner in 2014. (DCJS)

In 2014, firearms were used in 19 of the 65 intimate partner homicides (29%) and cutting/stabbing instruments were used in 28 of the 65 intimate partner homicides (43%). (DCJS)

### Law Enforcement and Community Supervision

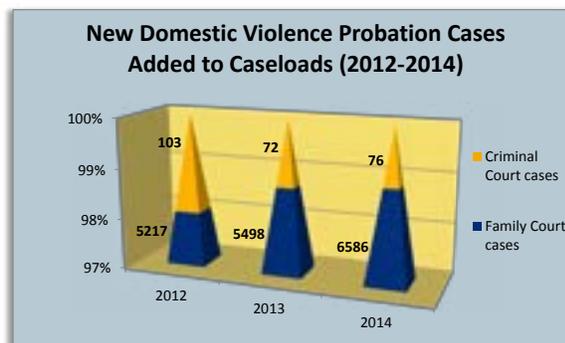
In 2014, there were 100,920 total assaults reported by police agencies outside of New York City. Of these, 29% (28,976) were committed by intimate partners; females were the victim in 80% of these assaults, which was also the case in 2013. (DCJS)

From 2013, total assaults in 2014 were down 10%, intimate partner assaults were down 7%, and intimate partner assaults where females were the victim were also down 7%. (DCJS)

In 2014, police outside of New York City responded to 182,438 domestic incidents, a 3% decrease from 2013. (DCJS)

In 2014, local probation departments added 6,586 new criminal court domestic violence probation cases to their caseloads. This represents a 20% increase from the 5,498 new criminal court domestic violence cases added in 2013, and a 26% increase from the 5,217 cases added in 2012.

Local probation departments also handled an additional 76 Family Court cases statewide during 2014, up slightly, from 72 Family Court cases handled in 2013. (OPCA)



In 2014, 22% (6,049) of the 27,624 individuals out on parole were identified as having a history of domestic violence. This percentage remained the same from 2013. (DOCCS)

### Courts

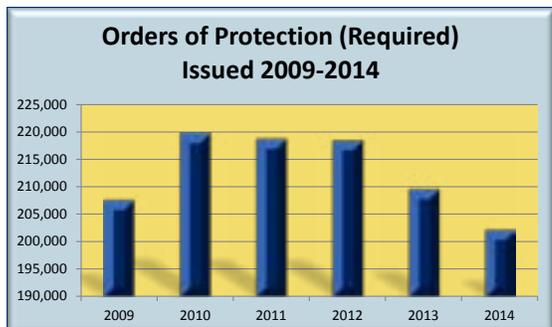
The 39 NYS Domestic Violence courts, each staffed by a designated judge, heard 25,264 new cases in 2014, a 6% decrease from 2013. (OCA)

In 2014, 2,484 new families and 13,972 new cases entered the 42 Integrated Domestic Violence (IDV) courts around the state. Since 2013, the number of families served increased by 2%, while the number of cases handled increased by 2%.

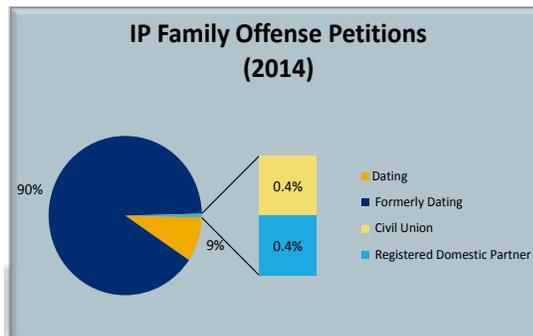
# New York State Domestic Violence Dashboard

2014 Data

NYS courts issued a total of 293,774 orders of protection in 2014, a 2% decline from 300,236 in 2013, of which 202,277 were required to be recorded in the UCS' Domestic Violence Registry. (OCA)



In 2014, 18% of the family offense filings in NYS Family Courts fell under the expanded definition of "intimate relationship," a 1% increase from 2013. Of these, nearly 5% were made by individuals in current or former same-sex relationships, the same as in 2013. This number has remained relatively stable since the 2008 passage of Expanded Access to Family Court. (OCA)



## Public Health and Welfare

### Public Assistance

In 2014, applicants for public assistance indicated danger due to domestic violence 19,975 times, a 5.75% decrease from 2013. (OTDA)

In 2014, Family Violence Option (FVO) waivers were granted to 9,710 applicants under the Temporary Assistance Program, representing a 12% decrease from 2013. (OTDA)

### Domestic Violence Services

In 2014, the number of crime victims' claims paid to domestic violence victims was 1,744. This showed a 12% decrease from 2013. Overall, the amount of money paid for domestic violence claims has increased by 6%, from \$2,504,462 in 2013 to \$2,655,234 in 2014. (OVS)

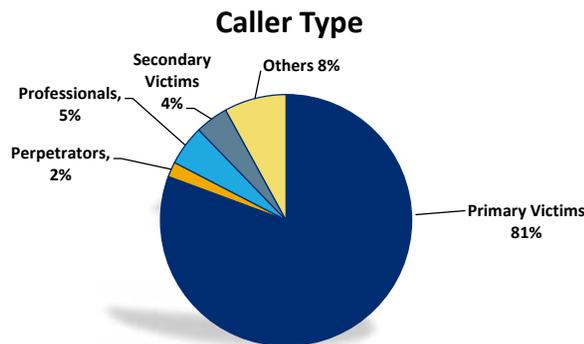
The number of claims paid to sexual assault victims decreased by 11%, from 771 in 2013 to 688 in 2014, while the amount of money paid for sexual assault claims in 2014 was \$849,599, down from \$968,933 in 2013. (OVS)

A total of 280,995 domestic violence and sexual assault hotline calls were received in New York State in 2014, revealing a 7% decrease from the total 303,399 calls received in 2013.

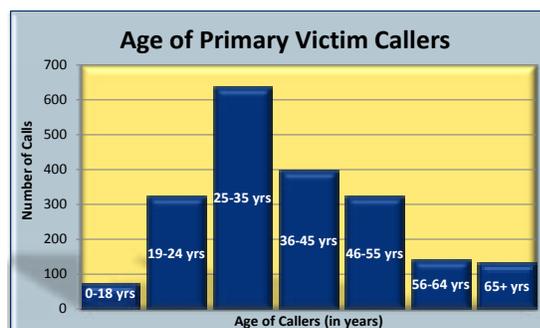
- New York State's Domestic & Sexual Violence (NYS D&SV) Hotline received 7,619 calls in 2014, a 14% decrease from 2013. (OPDV)

- The New York City Domestic Violence Hotline received 87,374 calls in 2014, a 12% decrease from 2013. (Safe Horizon)
- The OCFS-approved local domestic violence hotlines received 186,002 calls in 2014, a 5% decrease from 194,800 calls during the same time period in 2013. (OCFS)

In 2014, NYS D&SV Hotline calls came from:



Ages of Primary Victims who called the Hotline in 2014:



In 2014, of 6,816 primary victims who called the Hotline, 87% identified as female, 12% identified as male, and the remaining identified as trans female or were recorded as “unknown.”

Outside of New York City, the Hotline received the highest call volume from the counties of Westchester (13%), Erie (10%), and Albany (7%).

There were 87 approved non-residential programs that served 41,691 adults and children in 2014. This represents only a slight (0.22%) increase from the number of adults and children who were served by the same number of approved non-residential programs in 2014. (OCFS)

In 2014, 162 domestic violence residential programs licensed by OCFS with a total of 3,041 beds served 13,654 adults and children. (OCFS)

In 2014, there were 11,924 shelter denials of adults and 12,866 shelter denials of children. (OCFS)

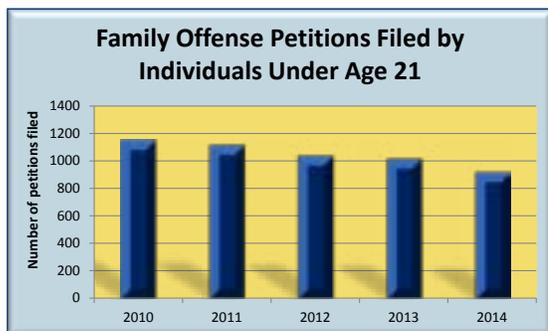
Of the older adults who self-reported as victims of domestic violence in 2014, 44% were referred to Adult Protective Services, 6% were referred to a police agency, 22% were referred to “Other” services not specified, and the remaining 28% were not referred for additional services. (OFA)

In 2014, the average age of older adults who self-reported as victims of domestic violence was 75.7; 67% were female and 33% were male. (OFA)

## Teen Dating Abuse

In 2014, a total 921 family offense petitions were filed by individuals 21 and under. This total, which represents a 10% decrease from 1,018 in 2013, is broken down by age, as follows:

- Individuals 17-21 yrs of age: 873
- Individuals 16 and under: 48 (OCA)



In 2014, there were three reported Intimate Partner (IP) homicides where the victims (all females) were between 15 and 19 years of age. This number remained the same from 2013.

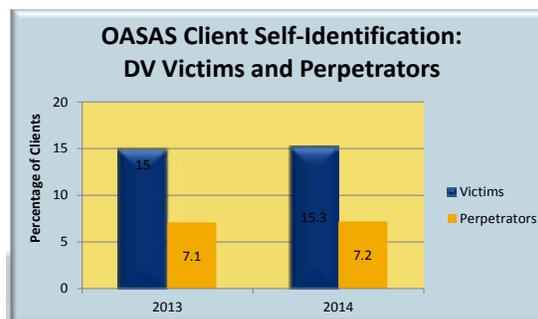
Since 2008, the number of IP homicides for victims 19 years of age and younger have remained

relatively constant ranging from 2 to 4. Prior to 2013, the youngest IP victims were 16 years of age. However, there was one 15 year old IP homicide victim in both 2013 and 2014.

## Healthcare and Substance Abuse

In 2014, the NYS Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services (OASAS) treatment providers reported the following victim identification information:

- The percentage of OASAS<sup>1</sup> clients who self-identified as victims of domestic violence increased only slightly from 15.0% in 2013 to 15.3% in 2014. (OASAS)
- The percentage of OASAS clients who self-identified as domestic violence perpetrators increased only slightly from 7.1% in 2013 to 7.2% in 2014. (OASAS)



<sup>1</sup> OASAS data is self-reported by clients receiving non-crisis treatment services in the OASAS provider system. Due to a new reporting methodology, 2014 OASAS data is based on the 164,000 primary clients and significant other clients who, in 2014, reported a valid status as a DV victim or perpetrator. That data was compared to data from previous years based on this same methodology. The noteworthy trend of this data is that the number of both victims and perpetrators who are identified is increasing. This may indicate that OASAS is more effectively identifying clients' DV status, but it may also indicate a change in client demographics.