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## Domestic violence numbers 'tip of the iceberg'

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By: [Caitlin Huston \(/authors/caitlin-huston\)](#) / September 04, 2011

From the [September/October 2011 \(/issue/2011/09/cha-evictions\)](#) issue of the *Chicago Reporter*, [CHA Evictions \(/issue/2011/09/cha-evictions\)](#)

[Who's abused? \(/infographics/%5Bfield\\_pub\\_date-yyyy%5D/%5Bfield\\_pub\\_date-mm%5D/whos-abused\)](#)



[\(http://www.chicagoreporter.com/sites/default/files/assets/infographics/gfx-domestic-spin.jpg\)](http://www.chicagoreporter.com/sites/default/files/assets/infographics/gfx-domestic-spin.jpg)

State-funded programs provided domestic abuse services to more than 12,600 in 2010.

[> Read More \(/infographics/%5Bfield\\_pub\\_date-yyyy%5D/%5Bfield\\_pub\\_date-mm%5D/whos-abused\)](#)

### The news:

This October marks the 24th annual Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

### Behind the news:

In Chicago, more than 12,600 people received domestic abuse services from state-funded programs in 2010, according to the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority.

People of different ethnicities and races sought services at slightly different rates. Hispanics received the services at the rate of 53 per 10,000 people, while white people, African Americans and Asians sought help at the rate of 44, 46 and 48 per 10,000, respectively.

To Dawn Dalton, executive director of the Chicago Metropolitan Battered Women's Network, these numbers demonstrate that domestic violence is happening everywhere.

"Domestic violence doesn't discriminate," Dalton said. "Any demographic check box that is available, you'll find domestic violence happening there."

She added that the numbers don't tell the whole story of domestic violence because there are still women who don't seek help or don't report abuse.

"What we do know about the statistics that we do have available to us—it's the tip of the iceberg," Dalton said. "There's a lot more going on in reality for victims of domestic violence. Because it is an issue that's looked at as something people don't want to address ... it makes it difficult for victims to be able to come out and say I need assistance."

**Departments:** [Spin Offs \(/departments/spin-offs\)](/departments/spin-offs)

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Anonymous wrote 51 weeks 16 hours ago

[hello \(/news/2011/09/domestic-violence-numbers-tip-iceberg#comment-772\)](/news/2011/09/domestic-violence-numbers-tip-iceberg#comment-772)

Someone who helps us a great deal at the green house shelter is about to be fired tomorrow what are we supposed to do being her client if she leave we leave and we will probly be dead if we have to go back to our abusers

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### Current Issue

[Child Homicide \(/issue/2012/09/child-homicide\)](/issue/2012/09/child-homicide)



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Despite DCFS involvement, many children die at the hands of their caregivers. Advocates say their deaths could be prevented.

[> Read More \(/issue/2012/09/child-homicide\)](#)

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