

# Children and Domestic Violence

## Nevada

There are 15 shelters and advocacy programs in Nevada that offer services for victims of domestic violence and their families. Services include 24-hour hotlines, peer counseling, advocacy, emergency food, clothing, and shelter. In 2001, the 15 domestic-violence agencies provided services to 13,894 Nevada children; of these 1,988 children spent time in domestic-violence shelters.

Based on police reports from cities and towns in Nevada between January 1, 2001, and December 31, 2001, children were present during 12,487 (54 percent) of the 22,971 reported cases of domestic violence.<sup>1</sup> These data underrepresent the number of incidents of domestic violence in which a child was present because (1) police reports may not be fully completed in all cases, and (2) not all cases of domestic violence are reported. These data underestimate the total number of children who experienced domestic violence in their homes, since more than one child may have been present at the incident.

## Significant Factors

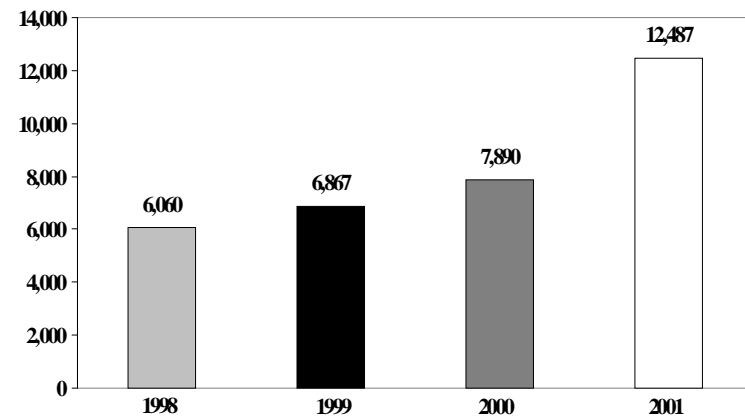
Domestic violence is a serious social issue that affects all communities and cuts across racial, ethnic, and economic lines.<sup>2</sup> Children who experience adult domestic violence in their homes suffer trauma even if they, themselves, are not physically harmed. Children may experience violent events in the home in several ways. They may witness their mother being abused, hear their mother's cries or a batterer's threats, and/or observe the results of a violent event through their mother's injuries or broken furniture.<sup>3</sup>

## Definition

*Children and Domestic Violence is the percentage of reported domestic violence incidents in which children under age 18 were present in the home. The data are based on police reports of domestic violence in 2000. Domestic violence is the use of physical force, or threat of force, against a current or former partner in an intimate relationship, resulting in fear and emotional and/or physical suffering.*

Note: Text provided by Sue Meuschke of the Nevada Network Against Domestic Violence (1-800-230-1955).

**Number of Domestic Violence Cases with Children Present in Nevada: 1998-2001**



Source: Nevada Department of Motor Vehicles and Public Safety, 2001 *Crime and Justice in Nevada*.

# Children and Domestic Violence Continued

## Domestic Violence Incidents with Children Present, Nevada: 2001

<i>Contributing Agency</i>	<i>Total Number of Domestic Violence Incident Reports</i>	<i>Total Number of Incidents in Which a Child Was Present</i>	<i>% of Incidents with Children Present</i>
Carson SO	413	100	24
<b>Churchill County:</b>			
Churchill SO	75	48	64
Fallon PD	73	73	100
<b>Clark County:</b>			
Boulder PD	232	122	53
Clark Co. Schools PD	11	6	55
Henderson	1,597	834	52
LV Metro PD	14,357	7,017	49
Mesquite	54	43	80
North LV PD	1,641	1,002	61
UNLV PD	4	0	0
<b>Douglas County:</b>			
Douglas SO	256	185	72
<b>Elko County:</b>			
Elko SO	19	13	68
Carlin PD	149	149	100
Elko PD	186	71	38
Wells PD	0	0	0
Wendover PD	61	32	52
<b>Esmeralda County:</b>			
Esmeralda SO	0	0	0
<b>Eureka County:</b>			
Eureka SO	6	6	100
<b>Humboldt County:</b>			
Humboldt SO	46	46	100
Winnemucca PD	61	27	44
<b>Lander County:</b>			
Lander SO	65	38	58
<b>Lincoln County:</b>			
Lincoln SO	7	6	86
<b>Lyon County:</b>			
Lyon SO	233	215	92
Yerington PD	7	5	71

<i>Contributing Agency</i>	<i>Total Number of Domestic Violence Incident Reports</i>	<i>Total Number of Incidents in Which a Child Was Present</i>	<i>% of Incidents with Children Present</i>
<b>Mineral County:</b>			
Mineral SO	56	45	80
<b>Nye County:</b>			
Nye SO	238	195	82
<b>Pershing County:</b>			
Pershing SO	12	3	25
Lovelock PD	25	25	100
<b>Storey County:</b>			
Storey SO	30	17	57
<b>Washoe County:</b>			
Washoe SO	444	390	88
Reno PD	1,658	1,184	71
Sparks PD	936	571	61
Pyramid Lake PD	0	0	0
UNR PD	0	0	0
Washoe Co. Schl PD	2	2	100
<b>White Pine County:</b>			
White Pine SO	17	17	100
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>22,971</b>	<b>12,487</b>	<b>54</b>

\*SO = sheriff's office.

\*\*PD = police department.

Source: Data gathered from *Domestic Violence in Nevada*, a report published by the Nevada Office of the Attorney General and the Nevada Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program, December 12, 2002.