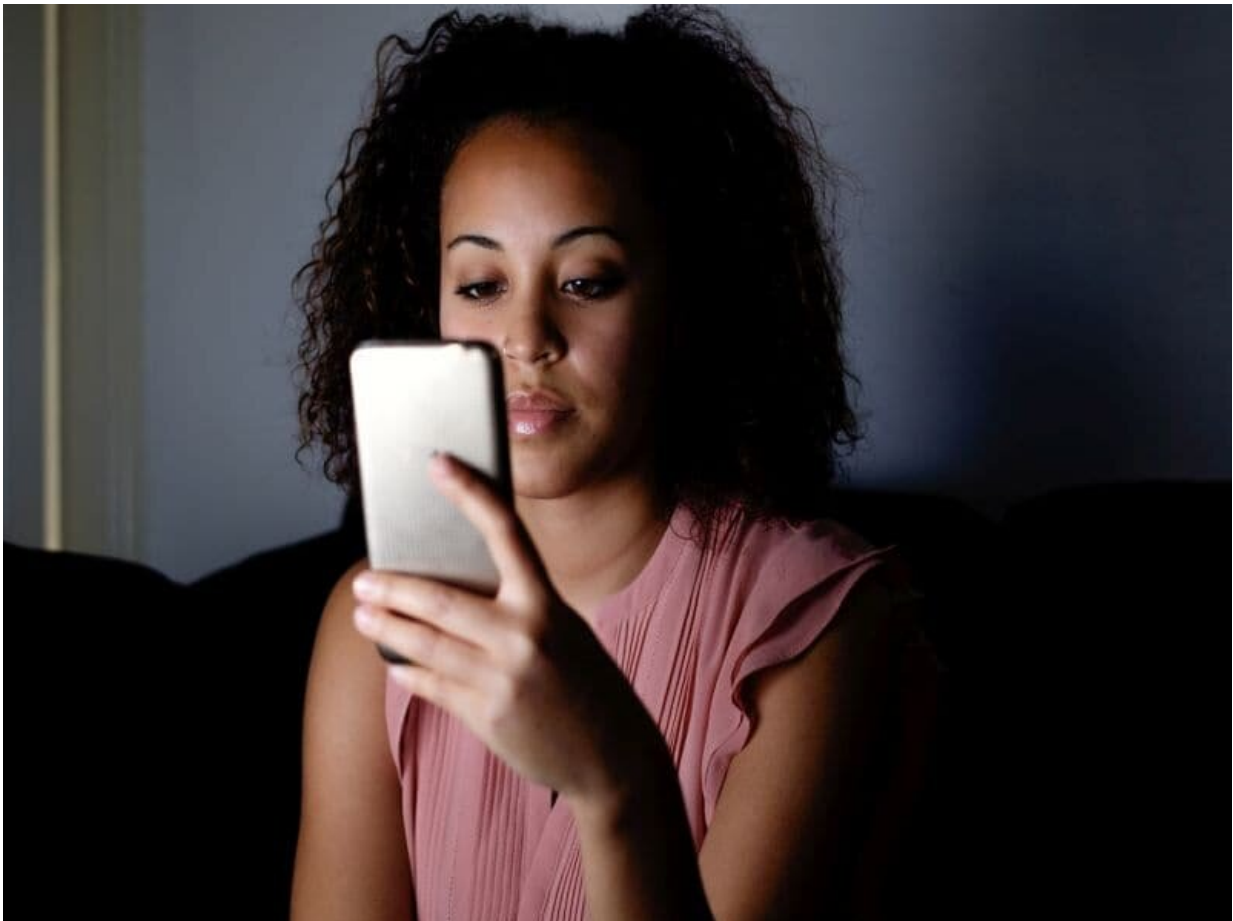


## 2018 busiest year ever for U.S. national domestic violence hotline

June 24 2019

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(HealthDay)—The U.S. National Domestic Violence Hotline had its

busiest year ever in 2018, receiving 573,670 calls, texts, and online chats, a 36 percent increase from 2017.

Factors in the rise include increased awareness due to the #MeToo movement that began 2017, and allegations of domestic violence against high-profile people such as R&B singer R. Kelly and former White House staff secretary Rob Porter, hotline CEO Katie Ray-Jones told *NBC News*. Both men have denied the allegations.

"I wouldn't necessarily say that there's more domestic violence happening," Ray-Jones told *NBC News*. "I think what is happening is, there's a lot of discourse around the complexities around domestic violence now."

Since 1996, the hotline has provided 24-hour, year-round support for people affected by [domestic violence](#). In 2018, 88 percent of people who contacted the hotline reported some form of emotional and [verbal abuse](#); 60 percent said they were victims of physical abuse; 24 percent said they were experiencing [financial abuse](#); 15 percent reported digital abuse such as constant texting, GPS stalking, and unauthorized home surveillance; and 11 percent said they were victims of sexual [abuse](#), *NBC News* reported.

**More information:** [NBC News Article](#)

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