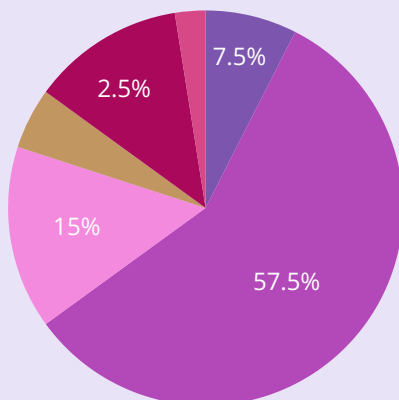
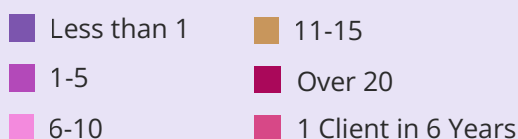


2025 COERCED DEBT ADVOCATE SURVEY:

- 40 responses were collected from 26 organizations across the Commonwealth in this survey in the Spring of 2025—*this accounts for about half of the organizations in MA that provide domestic violence services at some level.*
- The survey was completed by attorneys, advocates, and other specialists who work with survivors of domestic violence at legal aid organizations, domestic violence programs, hospitals and more.

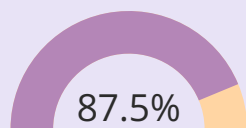
PREVALENCE OF ECONOMIC ABUSE & COERCED DEBT

In a typical month in 2024 & 2025, approximately how many of the total survivors of economic abuse you served had coerced debt?

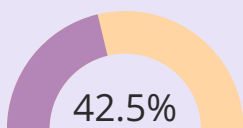


The majority of advocates work with at least 70 survivors of coerced debt each year, and a significant number work with at least 240 per year.

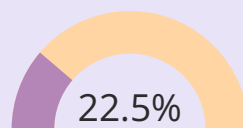
CONSEQUENCES OF COERCED DEBT



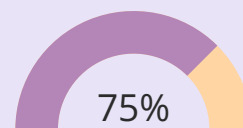
of respondents reported that survivors often or always cannot get adequate housing related to the coerced debt



of respondents reported that survivors often or always forgo buying life necessities like food and medicine to pay the debt



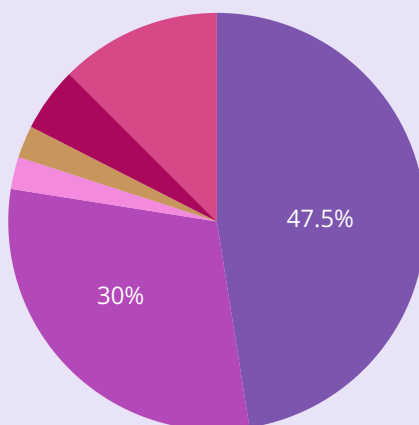
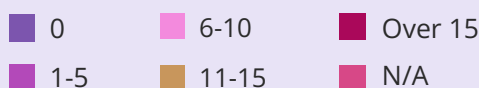
of respondents reported that survivors are often or always sued on a coerced debt



of respondents reported that survivors often or always stay in relationships in part because of financial dependency due to coerced debt

BARRIERS TO SUPPORT

How many survivors that you have worked with have successfully challenged the coerced debt with creditors/debt collectors and had all or part of the debt waived as to the survivor?



47.5% of respondents have worked with zero survivors who have successfully challenged coerced debt.