

California Victim Compensation Program

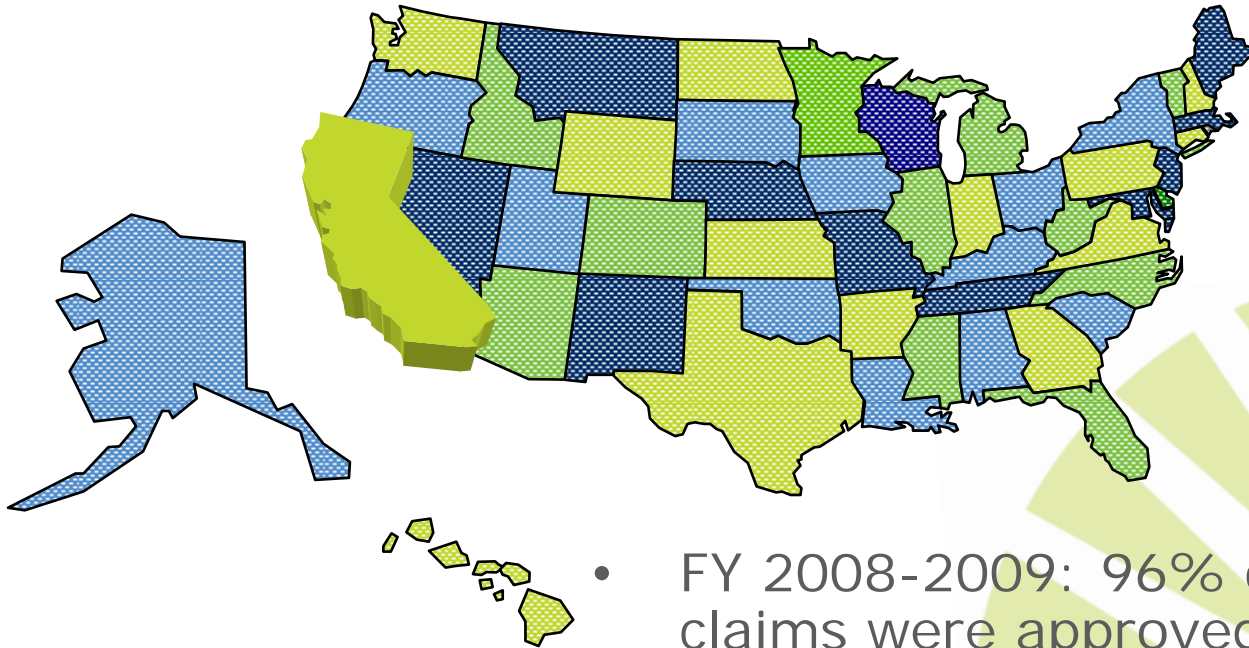
Victim's Rights Week Symposium
Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office
Victim Witness Assistance Program

April 21, 2010

JoAnn Goodwin, Assistant Deputy Executive Officer, CaIVCP

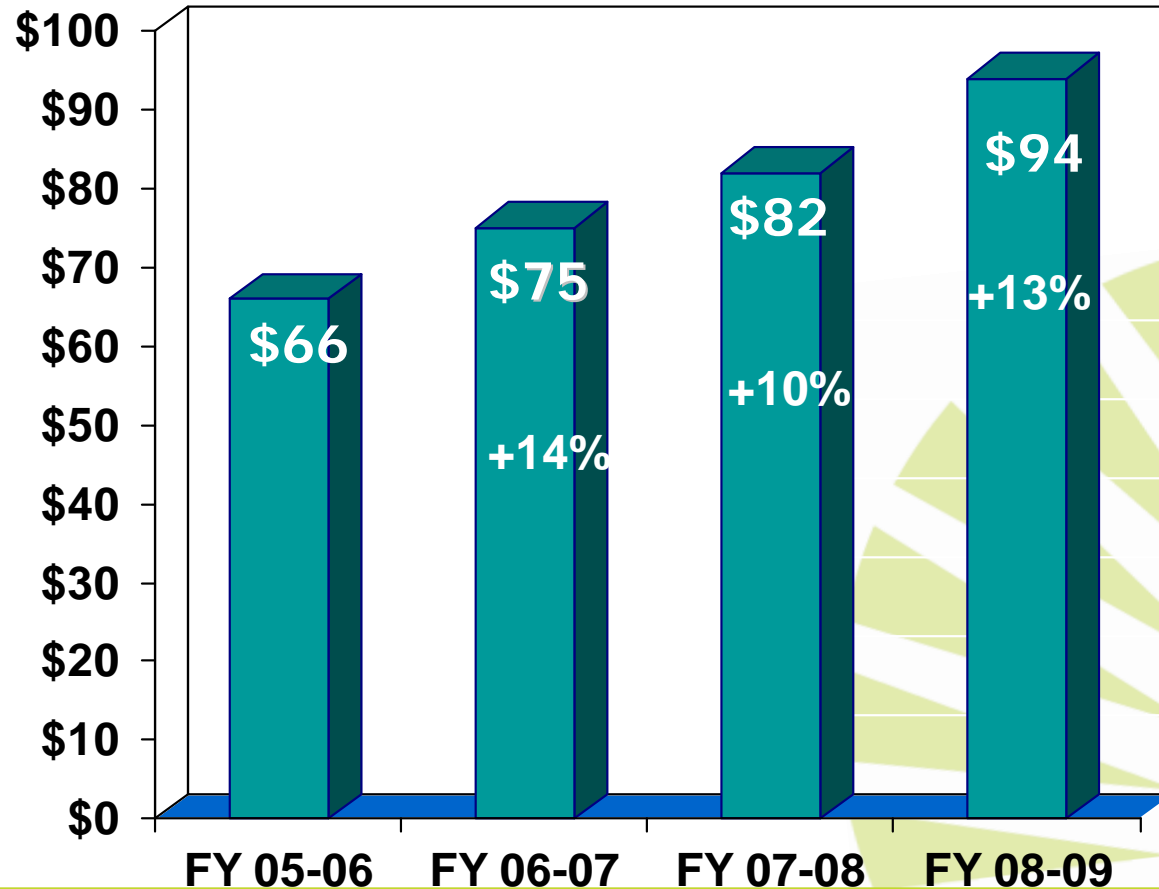
2010

About CalVCP



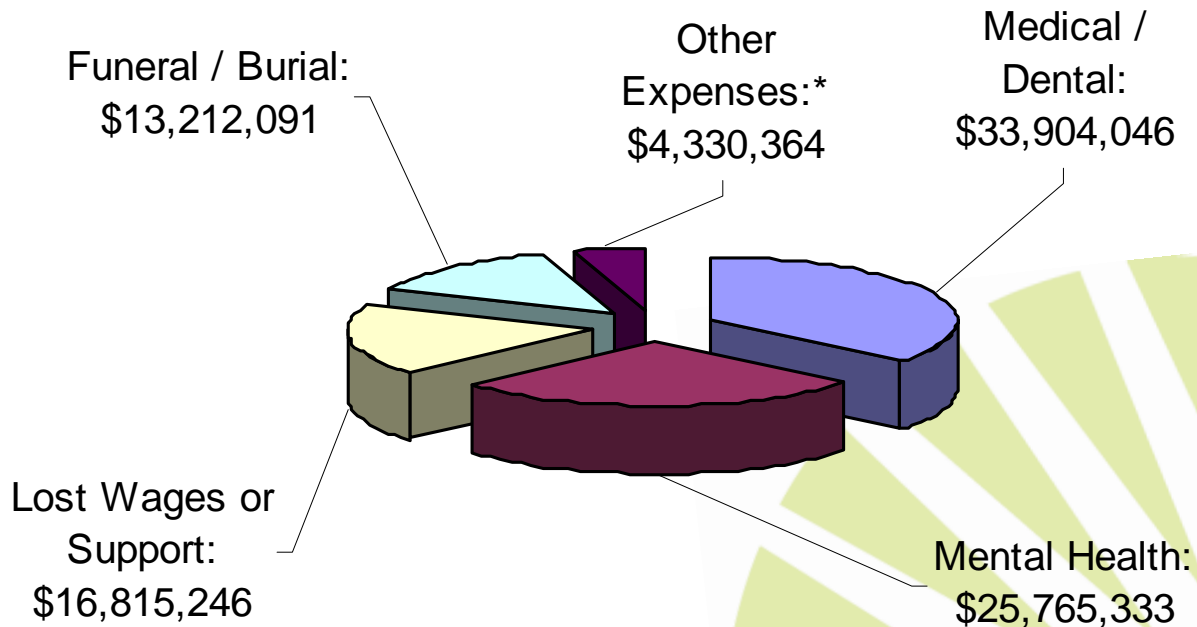
- FY 2008-2009: 96% of processed claims were approved for payment
- Payments totaled more than **\$94 million**

Payments in Millions





FY08-09 Compensation Paid by Type of Expense

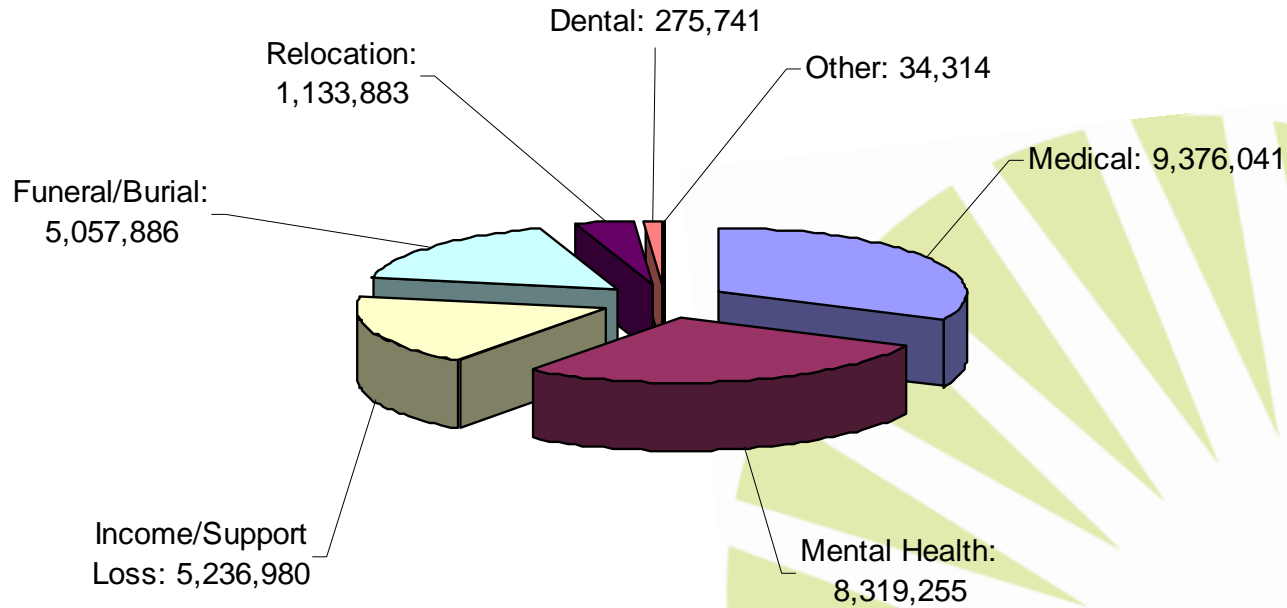


Total Payments: \$94,027,080

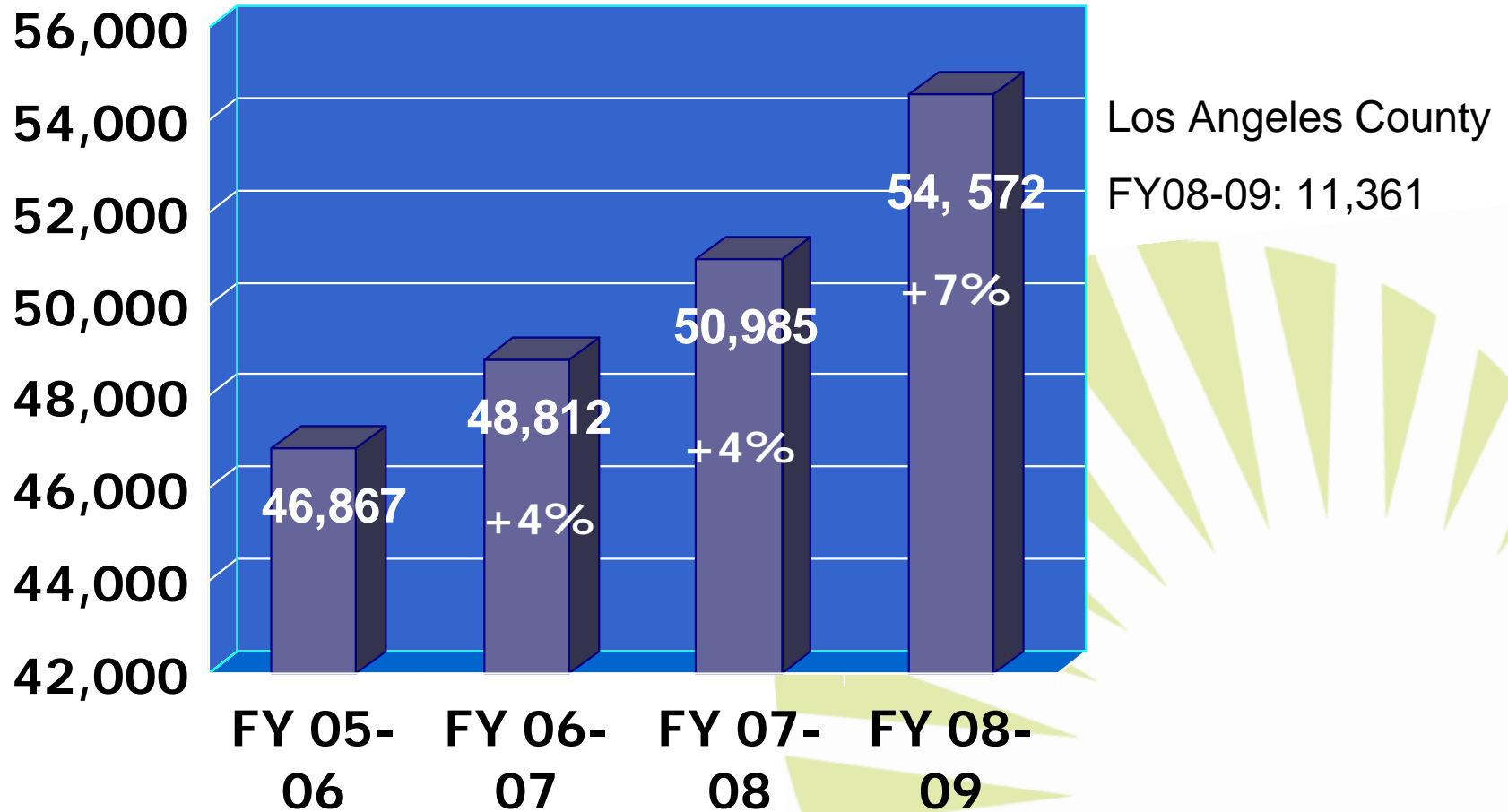
* Other expenses include relocation, residential security, crime scene clean-up, attorney payments, and miscellaneous expenses.



**FY 08-09 PAYMENTS
LOS ANGELES COUNTY
TOTAL: \$29,343,1000**

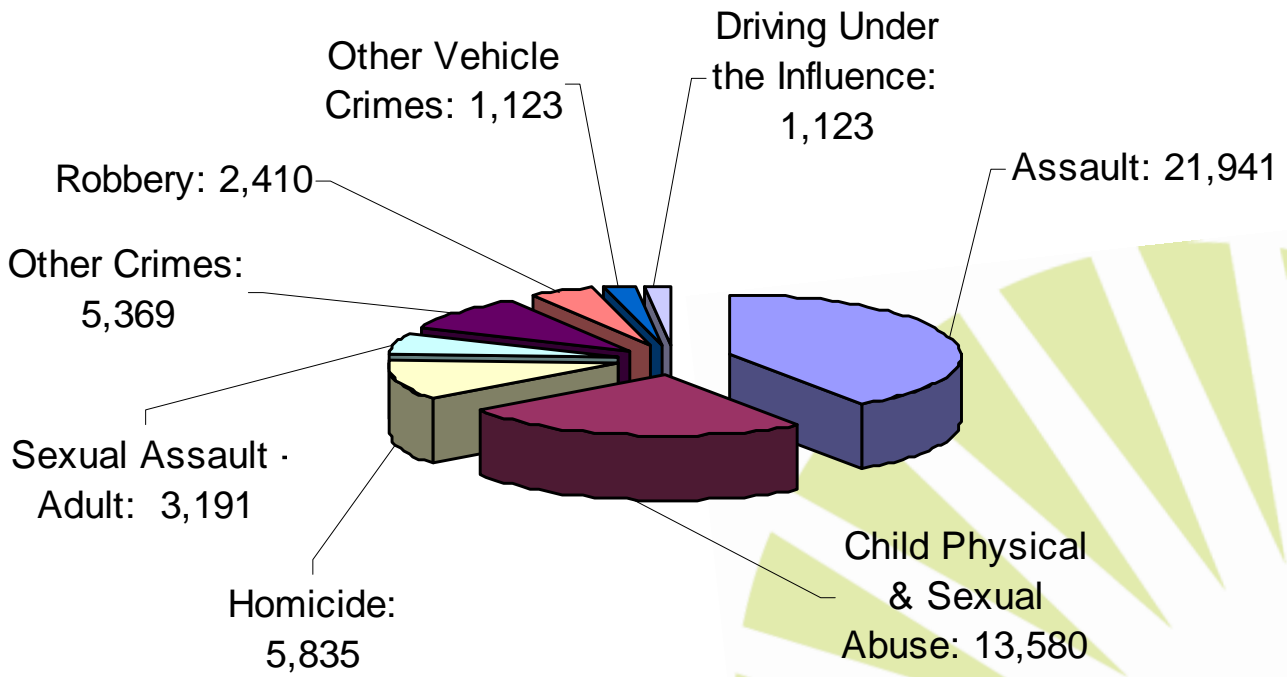


Applications Received





FY08-09 Applications Received by Type of Crime



Total: 54, 572



CalVCP Statistical Data Fiscal Year 2008-2009

Application Received by Claimant Type

Total Applications	54,572	%
Direct Victims	42,931	79%
Derivative Victims	9,956	18%
To Be Determined	1,685	3%
Female Claimants	32,704	60%
Male Claimants	21,270	39%
Unknown or Not Specified	598	1%
Adult Claimants	32,973	60%
Minor Claimants	19,914	36%
Unknown Date of Birth	1,685	3%
Domestic Violence Claims	13,205	24%
Claimants From Victim Witness Assistance Centers	35,769	66%
Claimants With Attorney Representation	1,680	3%
Claimants Filing Directly	17,123	31%

NOTE: "Unknown", "Not Specified" or "To Be Determined" reflect data not available at the time of report.



Relocation Benefit

- Benefit has been in place for 10 years
- Originally intended to protect domestic violence survivors from further harm
- Benefit now covers sexual assault victims and other crime victims covered by CalVCP
- In 2003, minors living in a household where there is domestic violence became direct victims to increase available benefits.

The logo for the California Victim Compensation Program (Cal VCP) features the text "Cal VCP" in a blue serif font. To the right of the text is a stylized sunburst graphic composed of numerous thin, radiating lines in shades of green and yellow.

Cal VCP Relocation

- \$2,000 per household
 - New legislation, effective 1/01/2010, allows for payments of more than \$2,000 in dire and exceptional circumstances
- Recommendation from law enforcement (for physical safety) or mental health provider (for emotional well-being) is needed
- May pay for more than one relocation per crime



Relocation Issues

- More than one move is now covered
- May take place some time after crime
 - Program may ask for more information to determine crime-relatedness
- Covers any direct victim
 - Also surviving household members of a deceased victim
- Domestic violence and sexual assault victims must agree not to inform offender of new residence



Typical Relocation Expenses

- Rental housing
 - Security deposit
 - First and last month's rent
 - Generally paid directly to landlord
- Utility deposit
- Telephone deposit
- Temporary lodging
- Emergency food or clothing
- Moving expenses
 - Truck rental
 - Storage fee
- Travel
 - One-way airline or bus ticket
 - Cost of gas for a one-way trip



Emergency Awards

- In cases of immediate need or substantial hardship an emergency payment may be made
- Local compensation offices have revolving funds for emergency payments



Verifying Eligibility

- **Crime reports needed for most crimes**
 - Law enforcement
 - Court records
 - Prosecutor
 - Child protective services
- **Domestic violence**
 - Report on an official letterhead from a battered women's program corroborates the allegation of domestic violence,
 - Medical records that document injuries consistent with the allegations of domestic violence,
 - Records of mental health treatment,
 - Temporary or permanent restraining order, or
 - The perpetrator was enrolled in a batterer's program or domestic violence diversion program as a result of the crime
- **Human Trafficking**
 - A law enforcement agency endorsement or an affidavit from a human trafficking caseworker,
 - Certification or eligibility letter from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Refugee Resettlement,
 - Prosecution of the offender(s), or
 - Medical records documenting injuries consistent with human trafficking (note that victims may have suffered multiple types of victimizations, such as sexual and/or physical assaults); or mental health records



Relocation Forms

- Relocation worksheet
- Law enforcement relocation benefit verification form
- Mental health provider relocation benefit verification form
- VCP rental verification or copy of lease
- W-9 Form needed to pay landlord directly
- <http://www.vcgcb.ca.gov/publications/compensation.aspx>



Coordinating Resources

- Section 8 housing assistance
- Domestic violence shelters
 - Transitional housing for domestic violence victims
- California witness protection program
 - Advocates may coordinate benefits if the claimant is eligible for both programs



The Advocate's Role in Relocation

- Help prepare relocation packet
 - Worksheet
 - Law enforcement or mental health determination
 - Rental agreement or lease
- Communicate with CalVCP
 - Claimant's needs and other circumstances
 - Address changes



Recent CalVCP Developments

- CaRES
 - New database, rolled out statewide in 2007
- Advocate access to CaRES
- Piloting on-line access
 - Advocates in Solano, El Dorado, San Bernardino, Fresno, and Los Angeles
 - Providers
- Minor witnesses to violent crime



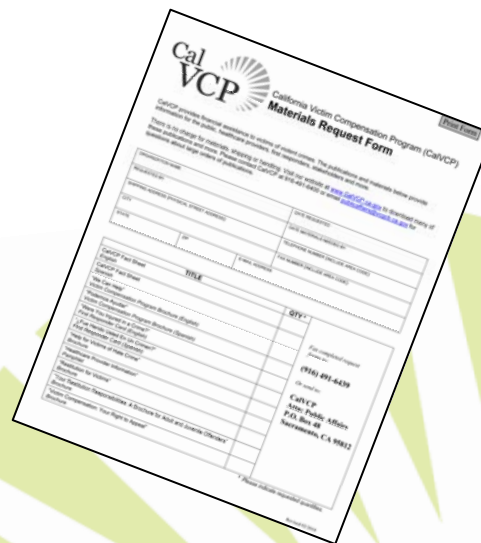
Minor Witness

- For applications filed on or after January 1, 2009 a minor who suffers emotional injury as a direct result of witnessing a violent crime may receive up to \$5,000 for mental health counseling.
- Only the minor witness victim is eligible this benefit, not family members.



How to Order Free Materials

- Print, fill out and fax the Materials Request Form located in the "Publications Section" of the CalVCP website: www.calvcp.ca.gov





For More Information Please Contact

The California Victim
Compensation Program at:

800.777.9229

www.calvcp.ca.gov

PublicAffairs@vcgcb.ca.gov