

**Child Abuse Statistics**  
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The Texas Department of Family & Protective Services (TDFPS) collects data each year of every report made to Child Protective Services (CPS). The data shows trends in reporting and documents the amount of abuse in Texas. The following table reveals the confirmed victims of abuse/neglect by CPS and the number of child deaths by abuse/neglect in the 19 counties that make up the Archdiocese of San Antonio.

**Numbers from TDFPS 2007 Data Book**

<b>County</b>	<b>Confirmed Victims</b>	<b>Fatalities</b>
Atascosa	226	0
Bandera	56	1
Bexar	6733	13
Comal	246	1
Edwards	0	0
Frio	104	0
Gillespie	30	0
Gonzales	88	2
Guadalupe	415	3
Karnes	55	0
Kendall	44	0
Kerr	181	0
Kinney	0	0
McMullen	1	0
Medina	162	1
Real	14	0
Uvalde	94	1
Val Verde	88	0
Wilson	53	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>8590</b>	<b>23</b>

In 2006, there were 7,344 confirmed victims of child abuse/neglect within the Archdiocese of San Antonio. This is an increase of 1,246 children that were abused in 2007. We can't assume that more children were being abused/neglected in 2007 than in 2006. More appropriately, there were more reports being made by adults to CPS. Though the numbers are frightening, there is another side to this. More adults are speaking out against abuse/neglect when they are aware of it.

The truly frightening number is the increase in child deaths by abuse/neglect. There were 6 more child deaths by abuse/neglect from 2006 to 2007. There were 23 children killed due to abuse/neglect within the Archdiocese of San Antonio; that is inexcusable.

When asked why all adults who minister to children in the Archdiocese of San Antonio must be trained in abuse prevention, we must remember the 23 children who lost their

lives. The Archdiocese is committed to decreasing abuse by educating adults and children on abuse prevention. As long as children continue to be hurt, the Archdiocese will continue to fight against abuse/neglect.