

Domestic and Sexual Violence Fact Sheet

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

- **Domestic violence is prevalent:** On average, nearly 20 people per minute are physically abused by an intimate partner in the United States. During one year, this equates to more than 10 million women and men.¹
 - 1 in 3 women have been victims of physical violence by an intimate partner in their lifetime.¹
 - Intimate partner violence accounts for 15% of all violent crime.¹ On a typical day, there are more than 20,000 phone calls placed to domestic violence hotlines nationwide.¹
- **Domestic violence can be lethal:** Women are killed by intimate partners—husbands, lovers, ex-husbands, or ex-lovers— more often than by any other category of killer.²
 - It is the seventh leading cause of premature death for U.S. women overall.³
 - In 70 to 80 percent of intimate partner homicides, no matter which partner was killed, the man physically abused the woman before the murder.⁴
 - The presence of a gun in a domestic violence situation increases the risk of homicide by 500%.⁵
- **Children are exposed to violence too:** 1 in 15 children are exposed to intimate partner violence each year, and 90% of these children are eyewitnesses to this violence.⁵
- **Many survivors experience stalking as well:** 1 in 7 women and 1 in 18 men have been stalked by an intimate partner during their lifetime to the point in which they felt very fearful or believed that they or someone close to them would be harmed or killed.¹
 - 60.8% of female stalking victims and 43.5% men reported being stalked by a current or former intimate partner.¹

SEXUAL VIOLENCE

- **Sexual violence is prevalent:** On average, there are 321,500 victims (age 12 or older) of rape and sexual assault each year in the United States.⁶
 - 1 in 5 women and 1 in 71 men in the United States has been raped in their lifetime.⁶
- **Most survivors knew their perpetrator before the assault:** 7 out of 10 sexual assaults are perpetrated by someone known to the victim; 28% are committed by a stranger, 45% by an acquaintance, 25% by a current or former spouse or dating partner, 6% by more than one person or the victim cannot remember, and 1% by a non-spouse relative.⁶
- **Younger People Are at the Highest Risk of Sexual Violence:** The majority of sexual assault victims are under 30; 15% of sexual violence victims are 12-17, 54% of victims are 18-34, 28% of victims are 35-64, and 3% are 65+.⁶
- **Women and Girls Experience Sexual Violence at High Rates:** 1 in every 6 American women has been the victim of an attempted or completed rape in her lifetime (14.8% completed, 2.8% attempted).⁶
- **Men and Boys Are Also Affected by Sexual Violence:** About 3% of American men—or 1 in 33—have experienced an attempted or completed rape in their lifetime.⁷ 1 out of every 10 rape victims are male.⁸
- **Transgender Students Are at Higher Risk for Sexual Violence:** 21% of transgender, genderqueer, nonconforming college students have been sexually assaulted, compared to 18% of female and 4% of male non-transgender peers.⁹

SOURCES

- ¹ Black, M.C., Basile, K.C., Breiding, M.J., Smith, S.G., Walters, M.L., Merrick, M.T., Chen, J. & Stevens, M. (2011). The national intimate partner and sexual violence survey: 2010 summary report.
- ² Bachman, Ronet, and Linda E. Saltzman, Violence Against Women: Estimates From the Redesigned Survey, Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics and National Institute of Justice, 1995 (NCJ 154348).
- ³ Office of Justice Programs, Violence by Intimates: Analysis of Data on Crimes by Current or Former Spouses, Boyfriends, and Girlfriends, Bureau of Justice Statistics Factbook, Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, March 1998 (NCJ 167237).
- ⁴ Campbell, Jacquelyn C., Assessing Dangerousness: Violence by Sexual Offenders, Batterers, and Child Abusers, Newbury Park, CA: Sage Publications, 1995.
- ⁵ Campbell, J.C., Webster, D., Koziol-McLain, J., Block, C., Campbell, D., Curry, M. A., Gary, F., Glass, N., McFarlane, J., Sachs, C., Sharps, P., Ulrich, Y., Wilt, S., Manganello, J., Xu, X., Schollenberger, J., Frye, V. & Lauphon, K. (2003). Risk factors for femicide in abusive relationships: Results from a multisite case control study. *American Journal of Public Health*, 93(7), 1089-1097.
- ⁶ Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2010-2014 (2015).
- ⁷ National Institute of Justice & Centers for Disease Control & Prevention, Prevalence, Incidence and Consequences of Violence Against Women Survey (1998). (Statistic presents information on the total number of male and female victims in the United States, using a study from 1998).
- ⁸ Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Statistics, Female Victims of Sexual Violence, 1994-2010 (2013).
- ⁹ David Cantor, Bonnie Fisher, Susan Chibnall, Reanna Townsend, et. al. Association of American Universities (AAU), Report on the AAU Campus Climate Survey on Sexual Assault and Sexual Misconduct (September 21, 2015).