

Domestic and Sexual Violence Fact Sheet

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

- **Intimate partner violence is prevalent:** Almost 1 in 2 women and more than 2 in 5 men reported experiencing contact sexual violence, physical violence, and/or stalking victimization by an intimate partner at some point in their lifetimes.¹
 - More than 2 in 5 women and men have been victims of physical violence by an intimate partner in their lifetimes.¹
 - Intimate partner violence accounts for 12% of all violent crimes.²
 - The National Domestic Violence Hotline receives an average of 17,765 contacts per month via phone, online chat, and texts.³
- **Domestic violence can be lethal:** Women are killed by intimate partners (spouses, lovers, ex-spouses, ex-lovers) more often than by any other type of perpetrator. In 2021, 34% of female homicide victims were killed by an intimate partner.⁴
 - Arguments and jealousy are common circumstances in the months leading up to intimate partner homicides.⁵
 - The presence of a gun in a domestic violence situation increases the risk of homicide 5-fold, or by 600%.⁶
- **Children are exposed to violence, too:** About 1 in 10 children in the U.S. are exposed to intimate partner violence in their homes in their lifetimes.¹
- **Many survivors experience stalking, as well:** In the United States, 13.5% of women and 5.2% of men reported being stalked by an intimate partner in their lifetimes.¹
- **Older adults also experience domestic violence in unique ways:** In 2022, assault injuries to older adults in the United States cost almost \$33 billion.⁷
 - About 1 in 10 older adults experienced some type of abuse or potential neglect prior to the COVID-19 pandemic.⁸ These numbers increased to 1 in 5 older adults during the pandemic in 2020.⁹
 - 5% of older adults experience financial exploitation by family members.⁸

**DID
YOU
KNOW**

SEXUAL VIOLENCE

- **Sexual violence is prevalent:** From July 2022 to November 2023, there were 481,020 victims (age 12 or older) of rape and sexual assault in the United States.²
 - 1 in 4 women and 1 in 26 men in the United States have reported experiencing completed or attempted rape in their lifetimes.¹⁰
- **Most survivors knew their perpetrator before the assault:** 9 out of 10 sexual assaults are perpetrated by someone known to the victim; 57% are committed by an acquaintance, 26% by a current or former spouse or dating partner, 17% by a stranger, 16% by a family member, and 6% by a person of authority.¹⁰
- **Younger people are at the highest risk of sexual violence:** More than 80% of female victims of unwanted sexual contact reported that it first occurred before age 25. More than 4 in 5 female rape victims reported that they were first raped before age 25. These numbers are comparable for male victims.¹⁰
- **Sex trafficking of women and girls is a problem:** In 2022, trafficking for sexual exploitation accounted for 69% of all human trafficking in North America. 92% of sex trafficking victims were women and girls, with the number of girls being trafficked increasing since 2020.¹¹
- **Men and boys are also affected by sexual violence:** 1 in 9 men reported being made to penetrate someone during their lifetime.¹⁰ About 9% of all rape or sexual assault victims are male.¹²
- **Transgender and female students are at higher risk for sexual violence:** 40.2% of undergraduate transgender, genderqueer, and gender questioning college students have been sexually assaulted. 39.4% of female undergraduate students have been sexually assaulted.¹³

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