

INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE

Intimate partner violence (IPV), often called domestic violence, is generally described as abuse within the context of an intimate relationship,¹ where one partner asserts power and control over the other. While legal definitions vary by state, IPV can include physical, sexual, and psychological abuse, as well as economic coercion. It affects millions of individuals in our country regardless of marital status, sexual orientation, race, age, religion, education, or economic status. Because of the seriousness of the crime, the effects on victims and their families, and the difficulties in the criminal justice system response, victims of IPV may require sustained resources, including: access to emergency shelter, as well as housing assistance; protection orders and safety planning; support groups; and financial assistance.

- Violent crimes by intimate partners (both male and female) accounted for almost 11.9 percent of violent crimes reported to the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) in 2012 (total 810,790).²
- From 2002 to 2011, 66.6 percent of female victims reported being physically attacked by an intimate partner. Of these victims, 44.6 percent were hit, slapped, or knocked down; 36.1 percent were grabbed, held, tripped, jumped, or pushed; 8.2 percent were attacked sexually; 5.4 percent were hit by an object or knocked down; and 3.8 percent were shot at, stabbed, or hit with a weapon.³
- In that same time frame, 64.6 percent of men reported having been physically attacked by an intimate partner. Of these victims, 43.3 percent were hit, slapped, or knocked down; 19.3 percent were hit by an object held in a hand or thrown; 14.0 percent were grabbed, held, tripped, jumped, or pushed; and 8.2 percent were shot at, stabbed, or hit with a weapon.⁴

- From 2002 to 2011, almost 50 percent of women who reported being physically assaulted by an intimate partner reported an injury. Of those women, 45.7 percent reported bruises, cuts, or other injuries; and 13.0 percent reported a serious injury (sexual violence, gun shot, knife wounds, internal injuries, unconsciousness, and broken bones).⁵
- From 2002 to 2011, 43.5 percent of men who reported being physically assaulted by an intimate partner reported an injury. Of those men 40.7 percent reported they sustained bruises, cuts, or other injuries; and 5.4 percent reported a serious injury.⁶
- According to the same source, of women who reported being physically attacked by an intimate partner, 17.6 percent reported there was a weapon present; 4.7 percent reported a firearm present; 6.2 percent reported a knife present; and 6.7 percent reported another weapon was present (e.g., broken bottles, cookware, household objects, and unknown weapon types).⁷
- Of men who reported being physically attacked by an intimate partner, 27.0 percent reported a weapon was present. For those men, 11.1 percent reported the weapon was a knife, and 15.1 percent reported another weapon was present.⁸
- According to the FBI in 2011, there were 2,283 women murdered by men in single victim/single offender incidents.⁹
- In 2011, 82.6 percent of female homicide victims (1,885 out of 2,283) were murdered by a male perpetrator they knew.¹⁰
- According to the FBI in 2011, 61 percent of female homicide victims who knew their offenders were intimate acquaintances of their killers, including wives, common-law wives, ex-wives, and girlfriends.¹¹

¹ Intimate partner for this publication includes: spouse, common-law spouse, ex-spouse, domestic partner, or girlfriend/boyfriend regardless of cohabitation status.

² Jennifer L. Truman, Lynn Langton, and Michael Planty, *Criminal Victimization, 2012*, (Washington, DC: Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice, 2013), Table 1, accessed July 9, 2014, <http://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/cv12.pdf>.

³ Ibid., Table 3.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Ibid., Table 5.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Ibid., Table 4.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Calculated from Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, *Year of Incident by Sex of Victim for United States*, generated using *Easy Access to the FBI's Supplementary Homicide Reports: 1980-2011*, (Washington, DC: Violence Policy Center, 2013), 3, accessed July 9, 2014, http://ojjdp.gov/ojstatbb/ezashr/asp/vic_display.asp.

¹⁰ Ibid.

¹¹ Violence Policy Center, *When Men Murder Women: An Analysis of 2011 Homicide Data*, (Washington, DC: Violence Policy Center, 2013), 3, accessed September 24, 2014, <http://www.vpc.org/studies/wmmw2013.pdf>.

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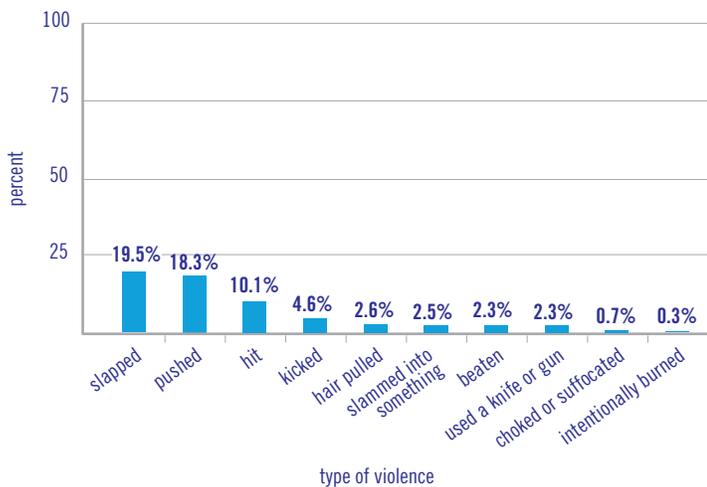
- According to the FBI in 2011, for homicides in which the weapon could be determined and there was one male offender and a female victim (2,283), more female homicides were committed with firearms (51 percent) than with any other weapon.
- Of the homicides committed with firearms, 73 percent were committed with handguns.¹²
- Knives and other cutting instruments accounted for 18 percent of all murders of women, bodily force 11 percent, and murder by blunt object 6 percent.¹³

- In 2010, 10.3 percent of state and 10.4 percent of federal firearms application rejections were due to a domestic violence misdemeanor conviction or restraining order.¹⁴

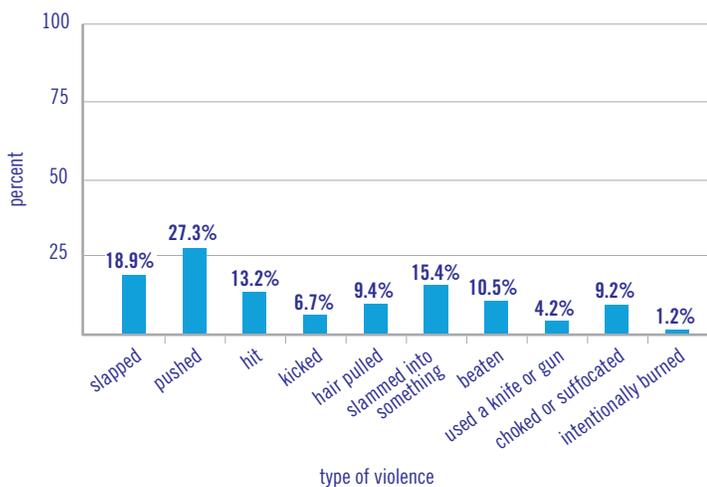
The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey 2011 gives important lifetime prevalence data.

- The lifetime prevalence of physical violence by an intimate partner is 31.5 percent for women, with 22.3 percent of women experiencing at least one act of severe physical violence by an intimate partner in their lifetime.¹⁵
- The lifetime prevalence of physical violence by an intimate partner is 27.5 percent for men, with 14.0 percent experiencing at least one act of severe physical violence by an intimate partner in their lifetime.¹⁶
- The most common form of intimate partner violence experienced by both men (25.5 percent) and women (29.7 percent) is having been slapped, pushed, or shoved by an intimate partner at least once in their lifetime. Men are more likely to be slapped (18.3 percent), and women are more likely to be pushed and shoved (27.3 percent).¹⁷
- For severe physical violence by intimate partners, men are more likely to be hit with a fist or something hard (10.1 percent), and women are more likely to have been slammed against something (15.4 percent).¹⁸
- Of women who experienced at least one act of intimate partner violence in their lifetime:
 - » 23.7 percent reported they were fearful;
 - » 20.7 percent reported they were concerned for their safety;

MEN'S LIFETIME PREVALENCE OF INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE



WOMEN'S LIFETIME PREVALENCE OF INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE



¹² Ibid.

¹³ Calculated from Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, *Year of Incident by Sex of Victim for United States*, 3.

¹⁶ Ibid.

¹⁷ Ibid.

¹⁸ Ibid.

¹⁴ Ronald J. Frandsen et al., *Background Checks for Firearm Transfers, 2010—Statistical Tables*, (Washington, DC: Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice, 2010), Table 4, accessed September 24, 2014, <http://bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/bcft10st.pdf>.

¹⁵ Matthew J. Breidling et al., *Prevalence and Characteristics of Sexual Violence, Stalking, and Intimate Partner Violence Victimization—National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey, United States, 2011*, (Atlanta, GA: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2014), Table 6, accessed September 15, 2014, <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/pdf/ss/ss6308.pdf>.

- » 20.0 percent experienced one or more PTSD symptom(s);
 - » 9.1 percent missed at least one day of work;
 - » 8.8 percent needed legal services;
 - » 3.6 percent needed housing services;
 - » 3.3 percent needed victim advocate services;
 - » 2.8 percent had contacted a crisis hotline;
 - » 1.7 percent became pregnant as a result of the violence experienced by an intimate partner;
 - » 1.3 percent contracted a sexual transmitted infection.¹⁹
- Of men who experienced at least one act of intimate partner violence in their lifetime:
 - » 6.9 percent of men were fearful;
 - » 5.2 percent were concerned for their safety;
 - » 5.2 percent experienced one or more PTSD symptoms;
 - » 4.8 percent missed at least one day of work or school;
 - » 4.0 percent needed legal services;
 - » 3.5 percent were physically injured.²⁰
 - According to a CDC survey of youth risk behavior in 2013, approximately 10.3 percent of high school students reported being hit, slapped, or physically hurt on purpose by a boyfriend or girlfriend in the 12 months before being surveyed. Of those who reported being hit, slapped, or physically hurt, 13.0 percent were female, and 7.4 percent were male.²¹
 - More than a third of all adult victims compensated by victim compensation programs were domestic violence victims. These claims represented half of all assault claims.²²

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender (LGBT) Victims of Intimate Partner Violence

- Lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people (LGBT) reported 2,679 incidents of intimate partner violence to local anti-violence programs in 2012. Twenty-one of these incidents resulted in murder.²³
- Of LGBT people killed by their intimate partner in 2012, 47.6 percent were men, and 28.6 percent were women.²⁴
- Of LGBT intimate partner violence victims who reported to local anti-violence programs in 2012, 32.6 percent were women, and 24.5 percent were men.²⁵
- In cases where the age of the victims was recorded when victims reported to local anti-violence programs, 40.3 percent of LGBT intimate partner violence victims were 19 to 29 years of age, and 1.6 percent were 60 or older.²⁶
- In 2012, 3.7 percent of LGBT intimate partner violence victims sought access to domestic violence shelters. Of those who sought shelter, 14.3 percent were denied access.²⁷
- There was an increase of police arrest of abusive partners in LGBT intimate partner violence cases from 28.4 percent in 2011 to 44 percent in 2012.²⁸ ★

<http://www.nacvcb.org/index.asp?bid=14>.

²³ National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs, *Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, and HIV-Affected Intimate Partner Violence 2012*, (New York: 2013), 8, accessed July 9, 2014, http://www.avp.org/storage/documents/ncavp_2012_ipvreport.final.pdf.

²⁴ Ibid.

²⁵ Ibid., 9.

²⁶ Ibid.

²⁷ Ibid., 21.

²⁸ Ibid.

¹⁹ Ibid., 11.

²⁰ Ibid.

²¹ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, *Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System* online analysis tool, accessed July 9, 2014, <http://nccd.cdc.gov/youthonline/App/QuestionsOrLocations.aspx?CategoryId=C1>.

²² National Association of Crime Victim Compensation Boards, "Crime Victim Compensation: An Overview," (Alexandria, VA), accessed September, 24, 2014,