

Statistics on Domestic Violence

- 4 million American women experience a series assault by a partner during an average 12-month period (1).
- On the average, more than three women are murdered by their husbands or boyfriends every day (2).
- 1 out of 3 women around the world has been beaten, coerced into sex, or otherwise abused during her lifetime (3).
- 1 in 5 female high school students reports being physically and/or sexually abused by a dating partner. Abused girls are significantly more likely to get involved in other risky behaviors. They are 4 to 6 times more likely to get pregnant and 8 to 9 times more likely to have tried to commit suicide (3).
- 37% of all women who sought care in hospital emergency rooms for violence-related injuries were injured by a current or former spouse, boyfriend, or girlfriend (4).
- For 30% of women who experience abuse, the first incident occurs during pregnancy (5).
- 95% of the offenders in murder-suicides were male. (6).
- 74% of all murder-suicides involved an intimate partner (spouse, common-law spouse, ex-spouse, or boyfriend/girlfriend). Of these, 96% were females killed by their intimate partners (6).
- 1 in every 4 women will experience domestic violence in her lifetime. 1 in 33 men have experienced an attempted or completed rape (7).
- Boys who witness domestic violence are twice as likely to abuse their own partners and children when they become adults (8).
- 33% of non-stranger assaults involve the use of guns, knives, bludgeons, and other weapons (12).
- It is estimated that violence against wives will occur at least once in two thirds of all marriages (12).
- Battering occurs in all socioeconomic, ethnic, racial, and age groups (12).
- Battering tends to escalate in severity over time (12).
- A battering incident is rarely an isolated occurrence; it usually recurs with increased frequency (12).
- 30% of female homicide victims are killed by their husbands or boyfriends according to an FBI report (12).
- 1 in 8 wives report being physically abused or threatened with weapons (13).
- 1 in 10 wives state they were beaten with fists (13).
- 1 in 18 wives said they were threatened with weapons other than guns (13).
- 1 in 23 wives reported being threatened at gunpoint (13).
- 1 in 66 wives surveyed said their mates had actually fired guns at them (13).

In South Carolina:

- There were 35,894 victims of domestic violence in 2005. 43% of reported domestic violence cases ended in an arrest (9).
- 36% of aggravated assaults were domestic violence related in 2006 (10).
- 1,809 forcible rapes were reported in 2005 (11).
- 28% of murders were domestic violence related in 2006 (10).
- There were 32 domestic violence related homicides in 2005 (9).

Sources:

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