

Domestic Violence

Fact Sheet



What is domestic violence?

“Domestic violence is a pattern of abusive behavior in any relationship that is used by one partner to gain or maintain power and control over another intimate partner.”¹ Domestic violence can include physical violence, sexual violence, stalking, emotional abuse, psychological abuse, economic abuse, technological abuse, spiritual abuse, and the leveraging of cultural beliefs, norms, or values as a means of abuse.

Prevalence

- Approximately 17 million people in the United States experience contact sexual violence, physical violence, or stalking by an intimate partner annually.²
- In the United States, 41% of women (51.2 million women) and 26.3% of men (31.1 million men) experience intimate partner physical violence, intimate partner contact sexual violence, or stalking by an intimate partner during their lifetime with “intimate partner violence-related impact”.³ People who are transgender are 1.7 times more likely to experience intimate partner violence than cisgender people.⁴
- 49.4% of women and 45.1% of men experience psychological aggression by an intimate partner in their lifetimes.⁵
- Intimate partner violence starts early. 27.1% of females and 21.4% of males experience intimate partner violence before the age of 18, and 72.3% of females and 62.1% of males experience intimate partner violence before the age of 25.⁶
- In 2022, domestic violence comprised more than 20% of violent crime incidents in the United States.⁷
- 99% of survivors of intimate partner physical violence experience economic abuse.⁸
- A woman is killed by an intimate partner approximately every nine hours.⁹
- On a typical day, domestic violence hotlines across the country receive more than 23,300 contacts.¹⁰

Impact

Intimate partner violence impacts people of all demographic categories, including people of all genders, races, ethnicities, socio-economic statuses, religions, sexual orientations, ages, educational attainment, regions, and immigration statuses.

- Of women who experience intimate partner violence:
 - 74.6% are injured
 - 7.8% have broken bones or teeth
 - 7.2% lose consciousness
 - 7.5% have a head injury
 - 71.3% have PTSD symptoms
 - 63.3% are concerned for their safety
 - 38.6% need help from law enforcement
 - 29.3% need medical care
 - 26.9% miss at least one day of work
 - 25.5% need legal services
 - 62.5% (5.7 million) have experienced intimate partner violence in the past year
 - 9.2% experience impacts at least a year after the violence occurred¹¹
- Of men who experience intimate partner violence:
 - 47.7% are injured
 - 1.5% have broken bones or teeth
 - 1.3% lose consciousness
 - 1.8% have a head injury
 - 32.9% have PTSD symptoms
 - 16.1% are concerned for their safety
 - 13.2% need legal services
 - 12.9% miss at least one day of work
 - 12.4% need help from law enforcement
 - 40.5% (3.3 million) have experienced intimate partner violence in the past year
 - 4.8% experience impacts at least a year after the violence occurred¹²
- Intimate partner violence is associated increased risk of experiencing chronic physical illnesses, mental illness, and premature death.¹³ It is the leading cause of mortality during pregnancy and post-partum.¹⁴

- People who witness domestic violence as children are more likely to perpetrate or to experience domestic violence as adults.¹⁵
- Intimate partner violence costs the United States economy approximately \$4.68 trillion over victims' lifetimes (adjusted for inflation), including \$2.73 trillion in medical costs, \$1.69 trillion in lost productivity, and \$94.87 billion in criminal justice costs, with governments footing \$1.69 trillion of this cost.¹⁶
- On a typical day, domestic violence programs served almost 80,000 victims, but almost 12,700 requests for services went unmet due to lack of resources.¹⁷
- Half of homicides of women are committed by intimate partners.¹⁸ Most women killed by men are killed by intimate partners.¹⁹
- In 2021, 62% of homicide-suicides were committed by intimate partners, and 88% of family annihilators involved intimate partners.²⁰

DV in the Jewish Community

The Jewish community is both religiously and demographically diverse. Jews differ markedly in adherence to traditional Jewish law, ranging on a spectrum from those who adhere strictly to rabbinic law to those who are traditionally or spiritually Jewish to those who are culturally Jewish but religiously secular. Demographically, Jews comprise people of all races, ethnicities, socioeconomic statuses, sexual orientations, gender identities, educational attainment, political beliefs, and family structures.

Jewish survivors of domestic violence experience the same forms of abuse as survivors in the broader population. They also experience forms of abuse unique to the Jewish community such as 'get refusal,' in which the abusive spouse refuses to grant a religious divorce, and interference in fulfilling certain religious obligations or observances. Jewish communities center families, and survivors may face strong religious and cultural resistance to disrupting family structures. Because Jewish communities are often small and tight-knit, Jewish survivors may be reluctant to come forward or to access services due to stigma and fear of community members 'taking sides.' As a minority community with extensive historical trauma, Jews may also be hesitant to 'air dirty laundry' by seeking services or legal help.

Simultaneously, Jewish communities can provide strong support networks to survivors and families. Friends, acquaintances, and strangers will step forward to help out community members in times of need. Shalom bayit, or peace in the home, is a core Jewish value. Jewish institutions and communities dedicated to upholding shalom bayit in spirit are an invaluable resource to victims and survivors.

¹Office on Violence Against Women (2023, October 4). What is domestic violence?

<https://www.justice.gov/ovw/domestic-violence>

² Leemis, R. W., Friar, R., Khatiwada, S., Chen, M S., Kresnow, M., Smith, S. G., Caslin, Sh., & Basile, K. C. (2022). The national intimate partner and sexual violence survey: 2016/2017 report on intimate partner violence. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control. https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/nisvs/NISVSReportonIPV_2022.pdf

³ibid.

⁴Peitzmeier, S. M., Manna, M., Kattari, S. K., Marrow, E., Stephenson, R., Agenr, M., & Reisner, S. L. (2020). Intimate partner violence in transgender populations: systematic review and meta-analysis of prevalence and correlates. *American Journal of Public Health*, 110, e1-e14.

<https://doi.org/10.2105/AJPH.2020.305774>

⁵Leemis, R. W., Friar, R., Khatiwada, S., Chen, M S., Kresnow, M., Smith, S. G., Caslin, Sh., & Basile, K. C. (2022). The national intimate partner and sexual violence survey: 2016/2017 report on intimate partner violence. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control. https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/nisvs/NISVSReportonIPV_2022.pdf

⁶ibid.

⁷Thompson, A., & Tapp, S. N. (2023). Criminal victimization, 2022. United States Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Statistics. <https://bjs.ojp.gov/document/cv22.pdf> ⁸Adams, A., Sullivan, S. M., Bybee, D., & Greeson, M. R. (2008). Development of the scale of economic abuse. *Violence Against Women*, 14(5), 563-588. DOI: 10.1177/1077801208315529

⁹Violence Policy Center (2022). When men murder women: An analysis of 2020 homicide data.

<https://www.vpc.org/studies/wmmw2022.pdf>

¹⁰National Network to End Domestic Violence (2023). 17th annual domestic violence counts report.

<https://nnedv.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/17th-Annual-Domestic-Violence-Counts-Report-Full-Report-March-2023.pdf>

¹¹Leemis, R. W., Friar, R., Khatiwada, S., Chen, M S., Kresnow, M., Smith, S. G., Caslin, Sh., & Basile, K. C. (2022). The national intimate partner and sexual violence survey: 2016/2017 report on intimate partner violence. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control. https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/nisvs/NISVSReportonIPV_2022.pdf

¹²ibid.

¹³ibid.

¹⁴Wallace, M., Gillispie-Bell, V., Cruz, K., Davis, K., & Vilda, D. (2021). Homicide during pregnancy and the postpartum period in the United States, 2018–2019. *Obstetrics and Gynecology*, 138(5), 762–769.

<https://doi.org/10.1097%2FAOG.0000000000004567>

¹⁵Holt, S., Buckley, H., & Whelan, S. (2008). The impact of exposure to domestic violence on children and young people: A review of the literature. *Child Abuse and Neglect*, 32(8), 797-810.

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chiabu.2008.02.004>

¹⁶Peterson, C., Kearns, M. C., McIntosh, W. L., Estefan, L. F., Noclaidis, C., McCollister, K. E., Gordon, A., & Florence, F. (2018). Lifetime economic burden of intimate partner violence among U.S. adults. *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*, 55(4), 433-444. DOI: 10.1016/j.amepre.2018.04.049

¹⁷National Network to End Domestic Violence (2023). 17th annual domestic violence counts report.

<https://nnedv.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/17th-Annual-Domestic-Violence-Counts-Report-Full-Report-March-2023.pdf>

¹⁸Ertl, A., Sheats, K.J., Petrosky, E., Betz, C.J., Yuan, K., & Fowler, K.A. (2019). Surveillance for violent deaths — national violent death reporting system, 32 states, 2016. *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*, 68(9), 1-36. <http://dx.doi.org/10.15585/mmwr.ss.6809a1>

¹⁹Violence Policy Center (2022). When men murder women: An analysis of 2020 homicide data.

<https://www.vpc.org/studies/wmmw2022.pdf>

²⁰Violence Policy Center (2023). American roulette: Murder-suicide in the United States (eighth edition). <https://vpc.org/studies/amroul2023.pdf>

