Domestic Violence Fact Sheet

* According to the National Domestic Violence Hotline, domestic violence is “a pattern of behaviors used by one partner to maintain power and control over another partner in an intimate relationship.”[1](https://www.thehotline.org/identify-abuse/understand-relationship-abuse/)
* This can include “behaviors that physically harm, intimidate, manipulate or control a partner, or otherwise force them to behave in ways they don’t want to, including through physical violence, threats, emotional abuse, or financial control.”[2](https://www.americanprogress.org/issues/guns-crime/reports/2021/04/26/498722/frequently-asked-questions-domestic-violence-firearms/#fn-498722-2)
* When specifically pertaining to spousal or dating partners, this is commonly referred to as “intimate partner violence.”[3](https://www.ojp.gov/feature/family-violence/overview)
* Intimate Partner violence impacts people of all socioeconomic classes, ages, genders, races, religions, and ethnicities.
* Over their lifetime, 1 in 5 women and 1 in 7 men report experiencing severe physical violence from an intimate partner;[4](https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/intimatepartnerviolence/fastfact.html)
* Nearly 2 in 5 transgender people report having experienced intimate partner violence or other forms of coercive control and/or physical harm.[5](https://ajph.aphapublications.org/doi/10.2105/AJPH.2020.305774)
* LGBTQ people experience physical violence at even higher rates: A recent report conducted by the Human Rights Campaign found that 44 percent of lesbian women and 61 percent of bisexual women experience rape, physical violence, or stalking by an intimate partner.[6](https://assets2.hrc.org/files/assets/resources/Intimate-Partner-Violence-Report-2020.pdf?_ga=2.199926446.1629245372.1619095811-2076948486.1614631333)
* Additionally, individuals with disabilities experience physical harm—including intimate partner violence—at higher rates than individuals who do not identify as disabled.[7](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4692458/)
* On a typical day, over 20,000 calls are placed to domestic violence hotlines nationwide[8](https://ncadv.org/STATISTICS).
* Intimate partner violence accounts for 15% of all violent crime [9](https://ncadv.org/STATISTICS).
* On average, nearly 20 people per minute are physically abused by a partner in the United States. This adds up to more than 10 million people annually [10](https://ncadv.org/STATISTICS)!