



PRESS RELEASE

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New Survey Underscores Need for More Services, Funding for Victims of Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, Stalking and Dating Violence

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention releases its first [National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey \(NISVS\)](#)

Reno, NV—The Nevada Network Against Domestic Violence (NNADV) welcomes new data that supports the need for funding and services for victims of violence against women. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) released its first National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (NISVS), which describes the great prevalence of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and dating violence.

According to the survey of more than 16,500 adults, on average, 24 people per minute are victims of rape, physical violence, or stalking by an intimate partner in the United States. In the 12 months prior to the survey, more than 7 million women were the victims of physical violence by an intimate partner. One in four women and one in seven men reported severe physical violence perpetrated by an intimate partner. This includes a range of physical violence from a slap to a longer term pattern of abuse.

The data also states that women are four times more likely than men to be beaten; six times more likely to be slammed against something; and nine times more likely to be strangled or suffocated. Seventy-two percent of women and 18 percent of men reported being frightened by the violence.

“Unfortunately, intimate partner and sexual violence and stalking are some of the country’s most serious public health issues, says Sue Meuschke, NNADV executive director. “Victims of violence not only suffer the immediate injury but also long-term physical, psychological and social consequences.”

Nationwide, more than one million women reported being raped in the 12 months prior to the survey. Nearly 92 percent of the female victims of rape were assaulted by an intimate partner or acquaintance. Nearly one in five women and one in 71 men reported having been raped at some point in their lifetime.

Approximately 80 percent of female victims experienced their first rape before the age of 25 and nearly half experience the first rape before age 18. Almost a third (28 percent) of men experienced their first rape when they were ten years of age or younger. "When people better understand the nature and extent of these acts of violence they will use that knowledge to strengthen and support collaborative efforts to prevent abuse before it occurs and hold perpetrators accountable," says Sue Meuschke, NNADV executive director.

NISVS SNAPSHOT OF NEVADA

NISVS results estimate more than 770,000 Nevadans have experienced rape, other forms of physical violence and/or stalking by an intimate partner in their lifetime and more than 240,000 had an injury or needed medical care. "These are staggering numbers," says Ms. Meuschke, "and emphasize the need for stronger intervention and prevention efforts."

The report's release supports the federal government's efforts to address intimate partner violence, sexual assault and stalking including the recently-introduced [Senate bill](#) to reauthorize the landmark Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). VAWA is the cornerstone of the federal government's response to these crimes, authorizing critical funding and support to survivors and to the criminal justice system. Victim advocates across the country are urging Congress to swiftly reauthorize the legislation.

For more information:

To view the entire survey, its executive summary, fact sheet and expanded state tables, visit <http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/nisvs>.

ADDITIONAL STATISTICS FOR NEVADA

During FY 2010-2011, domestic violence programs in Nevada received 66,474 contacts seeking emergency shelter, Temporary Protection Orders (TPOs), referrals for legal, transitional housing, transportation, daycare, employment, social, counseling and support services. Over 30,794 calls were made to domestic violence crisis lines in Nevada, and 2,222 domestic violence victims (adults and children) accessed emergency shelters, spending more than 48,718 bednights in refuge. These statistics were compiled from quarterly Marriage License Reports submitted by domestic violence programs in Nevada.

According to a study released by the Violence Policy Center (VPC) in September 2011, Nevada ranked first in the nation in the rate of women killed by men for the second year in a row with a rate of 2.70 per 100,000. This rate was more than double the national average. Nevada has held the top position for four of the last five years.

According to the VPC study, [When Men Murder Women: An Analysis of 2009 Homicide Data](#), Nevada's statistics include:

- In 2009, 35 women were murdered by males in Nevada.
- For homicides in which the weapon used could be identified, 48 percent of female victims

were shot and killed with guns.

- For homicides in which the victim to offender relationship could be identified, 91 percent of female victims were murdered by someone they knew, 67 percent were wives, common-law wives, ex-wives, or girlfriends of the offenders.

About NNADV:

The Nevada Network Against Domestic Violence was founded in 1980 to work toward the elimination of domestic and sexual violence against all persons. As Nevada's statewide coalition, NNADV is an inclusive network which both supports our member programs, and educates the public at large. Our agency is based in Reno, but our member programs span the entire state.

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