



DID YOU KNOW?

- ◇ **One in every four women** will experience domestic violence in her lifetime.¹ **One in 33 men** have experienced an attempted or completed rape.²
- ◇ An estimated **1.3 million women** are victims of physical assault by an intimate partner each year.³
- ◇ The majority (73%) of family violence victims are female. Females were 84% of spousal abuse victims and 86% of abuse victims at the hands of a boyfriend.⁴
- ◇ The cost of intimate partner violence **exceeds \$5.8 billion each year**, \$4.1 billion of which is for direct medical and mental health services.⁵
- ◇ Boys who witness domestic violence are **twice as likely** to abuse their own partners and children when they become adults.⁶

CHALLENGES

- As in many parts of the country, there are challenges to combating domestic violence in rural communities in Iowa. Victims often experience isolation and have limited access to transportation. It is a challenge to maintain confidentiality in some small, intimate communities, and funding is more difficult to obtain without the support of the corporations found in urban areas.⁷
- Local programs in Iowa are underfunded, resulting in limited staff and resources. The result is an inability to meet victim requests for emergency shelter, transitional housing and other non-residential services.⁸

STATEMENTS FROM SERVICE PROVIDERS

“On November 26, 2006, 21 out of 28 identified local domestic violence shelters participated in the National Census of Domestic Violence Services. During the 24 hour period, 325 victims of domestic violence received housing services from a domestic violence program, either in emergency shelter or transitional housing.”

- Staff, Iowa Coalition Against Domestic Violence⁹

“There was no referral [to a service provider] in 3,964 (56%) of the 7,047 victims in 2005.”

- Staff, Iowa Department of Public Safety¹⁰

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT IN IOWA

- There were 7,047 reported cases of domestic violence in 2005. This is an 8% increase from 2004.¹⁰
- Of the 7,047 victims in 2005, 19% were male and 81% were female. Of the 7,200 offenders, 81% were male and 19% were female.¹⁰
- 41% of the 7,047 victims of domestic abuse in 2005 were between the ages of 20 and 29. 652 of the victims were less than 20 years of age.¹⁰
- 49% of the victims were cohabitants of the abusers. An additional 26% were the wives of the abusers.¹⁰
- 866 forcible rapes were reported in Iowa in 2005.¹⁰
- Domestic and other romantic disputes accounted for the largest combined category (34%) of murder circumstances in 2005.¹⁰

STATE RESOURCES

Iowa Coalition Against Domestic Violence¹¹
www.icadv.org

- ◇ The Iowa Coalition Against Domestic Violence (ICADV) provides assistance and education to programs that serve battered women and their children in both rural and urban areas.

Iowa Coalition Against Sexual Assault¹²
www.iowacasa.org

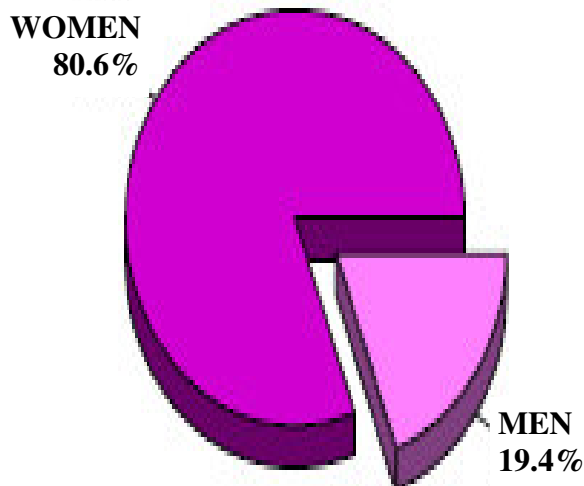
- ◇ The Iowa Coalition Against Sexual Assault (IowaCASA) works to end sexual violence through policy advocacy, prevention education and training. IowaCASA has 27 member sexual assault crisis centers throughout Iowa that provide sexual assault survivors with quality services and programs.

For more information, or to get help, please contact:
Iowa Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-942-0333
Iowa Sexual Assault Hotline at 1-800-284-7821

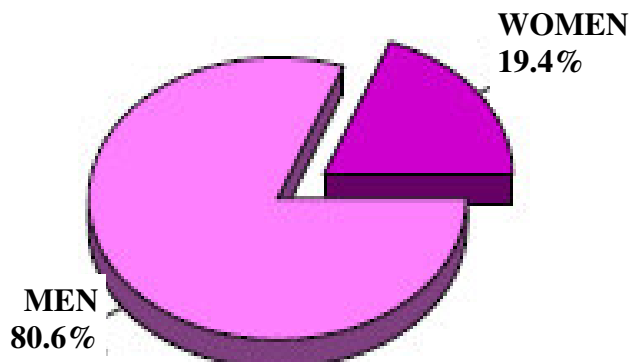
The National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-799-SAFE
 The National Sexual Assault Hotline at 1-800-656-HOPE

Gender of Victims by Number and Percent					
	Men	%	Women	%	TOTAL
1996	1,033	16.8	5,130	83.2	6,163
1997	1,097	16.9	5,380	83.1	6,477
1998	1,100	17.1	5,332	82.9	6,432
1999	1,190	17.1	5,773	82.9	6,963
2000	1,343	18.3	6,000	81.7	7,343
2001	1,409	19.0	5,992	81.0	7,401
2002	1,395	18.3	6,211	81.7	7,606
2003	1,383	18.6	6,048	81.4	7,431
2004	1,243	19.0	5,283	81.0	6,526
2005	1,364	19.4	5,683	80.6	7,047

DOMESTIC ABUSE: 2005
GENDER OF VICTIM



DOMESTIC ABUSE: 2005
GENDER OF OFFENDER



SOURCES

- ¹ Tjaden, Patricia & Thoennes, Nancy. National Institute of Justice and the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention, "Extent, Nature and Consequences of Intimate Partner Violence: Findings from the National Violence Against Women Survey," (2000).
- ² U.S. Department of Justice, "Prevalence, Incidence, and Consequences of Violence Against Women," November 1998.
- ³ Costs of Intimate Partner Violence Against Women in the United States. 2003. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Centers for Injury Prevention and Control. Atlanta, GA.
- ⁴ U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, "Family Violence Statistics," June 2005.
- ⁵ *Costs of Intimate Partner Violence Against Women in the United States*. 2003. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Centers for Injury Prevention and Control. Atlanta, GA.
- ⁶ Strauss, Gelles, and Smith, "Physical Violence in American Families: Risk Factors and Adaptations to Violence" in *8,145 Families*. Transaction Publishers (1990).
- ⁷ Ringnalda, Eileen. "Rural Communities Face Challenges to Deal with Domestic Violence." Iowa University Extension. September 1996. www.extension.iastate.edu/communities/news/ComCon45.html.
- ⁸ National Network to End Domestic Violence, "Domestic Violence Counts: The National Census of Domestic Violence Services Executive Summary for Iowa." March 2007. Retrieved on October 12, 2007, from http://www.nnedv.org/census/DVCounts2006/DVCounts06_StateSnapshots_IA.pdf.
- ⁹ Iowa Coalition Against Domestic Violence, "Annual Report 2006." Retrieved on October 12, 2007, from <http://www.icadv.org/lib/Annual%20Report%202006.pdf>.
- ¹⁰ Iowa Department of Public Safety, Office of the Commissioner, "Iowa UCR Report," (2005). Retrieved on October 12, 2007, <http://www.dps.state.ia.us/commis/ucr/2005/ia05dom.pdf>.
- ¹¹ Iowa Coalition Against Domestic Violence. "Mission Statement." Retrieved on October 12, 2007, from www.icadv.org.
- ¹² Iowa Coalition Against Sexual Assault. "Our History." Retrieved on October 12, 2007, from www.iowacasa.org/asp/aboutus.asp?m=3.

NATIONAL COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE



Every Home A Safe Home

The Public Policy Office of the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NCADV) is a national leader in the effort to create and influence Federal legislation that positively affects the lives of domestic violence victims and children. We work closely with advocates at the local, state and national level to identify the issues facing domestic violence victims, their children and the people who serve them and to develop a legislative agenda to address these issues. NCADV welcomes you to join us in our effort to end domestic violence.

IDPH Press Release -- 2/07/2008

New Domestic Violence Figures Released for Iowa

Teenagers also report violent relationships

Nearly one-quarter of Iowa women have been the victim of domestic violence, according to a new report in the American Journal of Preventive Medicine. The twelve-month study found 23.1 percent of Iowa women and 13.7 percent of Iowa men have experienced domestic violence in their lifetime. Domestic violence is not limited to adults. The most recent figures indicate 8.3 percent of Iowa students reported having been hit by a girlfriend or boyfriend.

"It is a tragedy that so many women do not feel safe in their intimate relationships," said Binnie LeHew of the Iowa Department of Public Health's Disability and Violence Prevention bureau. "This problem is preventable if communities work together to address the factors that contribute to domestic violence."

LeHew says prevention messages are most effective when begun in the pre-teen years. Iowa has several model programs being used in schools and other community settings to intervene with young men and women before they become violent. For example:

- Several Sioux City schools use a program called "MVP" (Mentors in Violence Prevention) that targets young men to intervene when they witness violence against women.
- "Safe Dates" is a community program that teaches young people about healthy dating relationships.

LeHew says neighbors, family or friends often believe what happens to someone else is 'none of their business.' However, LeHew says victims of domestic violence need support and help, even if it does not mean immediately leaving the violent relationship. "There are immediate and long-term safe options," said LeHew. "The most important thing is the safety of the abuse victim."

The Iowa Domestic Abuse Hotline has counselors available around-the-clock at 1-800-942-0333. Callers can get advice on how to help a friend who they suspect may be abused and victims of abuse can get information about the safe options available to them.