

Sexual Violence and Intimate Partner Violence

Intimate partner violence (IPV) is physical, sexual, psychological, or emotional abuse by a current or former spouse, dating partner, or boyfriend or girlfriend; sexual violence refers to attempted or completed sex acts where consent is neither obtained nor freely given.

What We Know

- ▶ Approximately 1 in 4 women and 1 in 7 men report some form of physical violence or nonconsensual sex—that is more than 21,000 intimate partner-related physical assaults each day.
- ▶ Approximately 1 in 6 women and 1 in 33 men report that at some time in their lives, they experienced an attempted or completed rape.
- ▶ Between 7 to 36 percent of women and 3 to 29 percent of men report they experienced sexual abuse during childhood.

Promoting respectful and nonviolent relationships could save lives and reduce other negative consequences.



Research Focus	What We Want to Know	How This Research Will Help
Monitoring and Surveillance	How can we improve surveillance of sexual and intimate partner violence? What are the most cost-efficient and timely surveillance strategies?	This will provide policymakers with the information to understand the problem and to monitor the effectiveness of prevention efforts.
Risk and Protective Factors	What relationship, community and societal factors contribute to violent conduct? Which factors buffer against risk and promote nonviolent and respectful relationships?	We will learn to identify the best times, settings and strategies for preventing sexual and intimate partner violence.
Links Between Types of Violence	What are the types and subtypes of sexual and intimate partner violence, and in what settings do they occur? How are sexual and intimate partner violence related to other types of violence, health-risk behaviors, and health outcomes?	This will assist in developing prevention, strategies that will have the potential to impact multiple forms of violence and assist in determining when we may need more tailored prevention strategies.
Role of Disparities	How do social, economic, institutional, and gender-associated differences contribute to the occurrence and development of sexual and intimate partner violence?	We can develop or tailor prevention approaches to make them more relevant and effective.
Evaluating the Effectiveness of Programs and Policies	What individual, relationship, community, and societal prevention strategies are effective? Can the same approaches affect both sexual and intimate partner violence?	We can identify effective prevention strategies across a wide range of violent behaviors.



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