

# Findings from the National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey

## 2010-2012 State Report



CDC's National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (NISVS) is a national telephone survey that gathers data on sexual violence, stalking, and intimate partner violence in the United States. Started in 2010, the survey collects data from adult women and men on past-year and lifetime experiences of violence. By monitoring sexual violence, stalking, and intimate partner violence at the state and national levels, CDC can better understand the size of the problem, characteristics of the violence, and consequences with the ultimate goal of stopping violence before it occurs.

This report provides data for states to help them better understand the extent of intimate partner, sexual violence, and stalking and to inform state and national efforts to better prevent this violence and support victims when it occurs. For the full report, visit: [www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/nisvs/summaryreports.html](http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/nisvs/summaryreports.html).

## Key Findings

Sexual violence, stalking, and intimate partner violence continue to be public health problems affecting millions of Americans each year. Survey findings underscore the heavy toll of this violence, the young age at which people often experience violence, and the negative health conditions associated with these forms of violence.

### The burden of sexual violence, stalking, and intimate partner violence is significant.

- In the U.S., about 1 in 3 women and nearly 1 in 6 men experienced some form of contact sexual violence during their lifetime.
- Nearly 23 million women and 1.7 million men have been the victims of completed or attempted rape at some point in their life.
- An estimated 6.8 million men were made to penetrate another person in their lifetime.
- In the U.S., more than 27% of women and 11% of men have experienced contact sexual violence, physical violence, and/or stalking by an intimate partner in their lifetime and experienced an intimate partner violence-related impact.
- 1 in 6 women and 1 in 19 men experienced stalking at some point during their lifetime.



About **1 in 3** women and **1 in 6** men in the U.S. experienced some form of contact sexual violence during their lifetime.



**1 in 6** women and **1 in 19** men in the U.S. experienced stalking at some point during their lifetime.

## First experiences among victims of rape and being made to penetrate someone else often happen before the age of 18.

- Of all female victims of completed rape 41% reported that it first occurred prior to age 18.
- Of all female victims of completed rape 30% reported that their first such victimization occurred between the ages of 11 and 17.
- Among reportable states, estimates ranged from 26% to 58% (44 states) for having experienced their first completed rape victimization prior to turning 18.
- Among reportable states, estimates ranged from 21% to 45% (27 states) for first completed rape victimization occurring between the ages of 11 and 17.
- Of all male victims of made to penetrate victimization, 24% reported that it occurred prior to age 18.
- Of all male victims of made to penetrate victimization, 20% reported their first victimization occurred between the ages of 11 and 17.

## For victims, the negative impacts and health conditions associated with these forms of violence are extensive.

- More than 27% of women and 11% of men have experienced contact sexual violence, physical violence, and/or stalking by an intimate partner in their lifetime and experienced an intimate partner violence-related impact. Commonly reported negative impacts were feeling fearful (62% women, 18% men), concern for their safety (57% women, 17% men), and symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder (52% women, 17% men).
- Significantly more women and men with a history of sexual violence or stalking by any perpetrator, or physical violence by an intimate partner, reported asthma, irritable bowel syndrome, frequent headaches, chronic pain, difficulty sleeping, and limitations in their activities compared to women and men without a history of these forms of violence.

## Violence Can Be Prevented

CDC works to better understand the problem of violence and to prevent it before it begins. CDC scientists reviewed the prevention literature and considered the best possible evidence available to prevent violence and to lessen harms and future risk. They identified strategies with approaches that states and communities can implement and described how various sectors could support implementation. These technical packages can help communities prioritize prevention based on the best available evidence. CDC has released technical packages on sexual violence, child abuse and neglect, youth violence, and suicide, which can be found here: <http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pub/technical-packages.html>. An additional technical package on preventing intimate partner violence is under development.

## Implications for Prevention

Given the burden of these forms of violence in the lives of Americans, it is important to focus on prevention and identify evidence-based strategies that reduce violence. A comprehensive strategy to prevent sexual violence, stalking, and intimate partner violence requires:

- Prevention efforts start early, and continue through adolescence and adulthood;
- Public health partner with other sectors, such as education, justice, and social services, to implement prevention efforts; and
- Data are used to monitor the extent of the problem and to evaluate the impact of prevention efforts.



### About NISVS

NISVS is an ongoing, nationally representative telephone survey that collects detailed information on IPV, SV, and stalking victimization of adult women and men ages 18 and older in the United States. The survey collects data on past-year and lifetime experiences of violence. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention developed NISVS to better describe and monitor the magnitude of these forms of violence in the United States.