

Illinois Center for Violence Prevention Fact Sheet

Violence Against Women

- Young women, low-income women and some minorities are disproportionately victims of domestic violence and rape. Women ages 20-24 are at the greatest risk of nonfatal domestic violence.¹
- Women age 24 and under suffer from the highest rates of rape.²
- According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, homicide is the leading cause of death for women on the job, and 20% of those murders were at the hands of their partners.³
- Historically, females have been most often victimized by someone they knew.⁴
- The National Violence Against Women Survey (NVAWS) found that 17.6 percent of surveyed women were raped at some point in their lifetime.⁵
- Study found that a woman's attempt to leave her intimate partner was the precipitating factor in 45 percent of the murders of a woman by a man.⁶
- Violence against women is primarily intimate partner violence: 64.0 percent of the women who reported being raped, physically assaulted, and/or stalked since age 18 were victimized by a current or former husband, cohabiting partner, boyfriend, or date.⁷
- Nearly 5.3 million intimate partner victimizations occur among U.S. women age 18 and older each year, leading to 2 million injuries and nearly 1,300 deaths.⁸

¹ Full Report Of The Prevalence, Incidence, And Consequences Of Violence Against Women. Findings From The National Violence Against Women Survey. US Department Of Justice. 2000

² Bureau of Justice Statistics (table 4, page 17) *Criminal Victimization in the United States, 2006 Statistical Tables*

³ U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, "Criminal Victimization, 2005," September 2006.

⁴ U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, "Criminal Victimization, 2005," September 2006.

⁵ Tjaden, P. & Thoennes, N. (2006). Extent, Nature, and Consequences of Rape Victimization: Findings From the National Violence Against Women Survey. Special Report. Washington, D.C.: National Institute of Justice and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

⁶ Block, C.R. (2003). How Can Practitioners Help an Abused Woman Lower Her Risk of Death? In *Intimate Partner Homicide*, NIJ Journal, 250, 4-7

⁷ Full Report of the Prevalence, Incidence, and Consequences of Violence Against Women. Findings From the National Violence Against Women Survey. U.S. Department of Justice. 2000

⁸ Full Report of the Costs of Intimate Partner Violence Against Women in the United States. Department of Health and Human Services, 2003.

