Many available statistics reflect a fabricated gender binary. End Abuse takes a gender-expansive approach to anti-violence work.

According to WHO data, about 1 in 3 or 27% of women age 15–49 worldwide who have been in an intimate partner relationship report that they have experienced intimate partner violence.

**Global Impact**

The World Health Organization calls domestic violence “devastatingly pervasive.” Intimate partner violence is by far the most prevalent form of violence against women globally.

24 people/min

An average of 24 people per minute are victims of rape, physical violence, or stalking by an intimate partner in the U.S. — more than 12 million people per year.

12 million/yr

Intimate partner violence alone affects more than 12 million people every year in the U.S.

1 in 3 women, 1 in 4 men

Over 1 in 3 women (35.6%) and 1 in 4 men (28.5%) in the US have experienced rape, physical violence, and/or stalking by an intimate partner in their lifetime.*

**In the U.S.**

1 in 4 young women

Who ages 15–24 years who have been in a relationship will have already experienced violence by an intimate partner by the time they reach their mid-twenties (WHO).

Learn about abuse in later life at www.ncall.us

Learn about the WI youth statewide prevention campaign at www.dare2knowwi.org

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**Across the Lifespan**

Intimate partner violence starts early. 1 in 4 young women aged 15–24 years who have been in a relationship will have already experienced violence by an intimate partner by the time they reach their mid-twenties (WHO).

About 4 million older adults are victims of physical, psychological and/or other forms of abuse and neglect, including emotional abuse and financial exploitation. (NCADV).

**In Wisconsin**

1 in 3 women, 1 in 4 men*

Reported WI rates of domestic violence consistently align with national statistics, with about 32% of reports being against women and 23% against men in 2022 (World Population Review).

On a single day in 2022, surveyed domestic violence frontline service providers served 1,938 Victims. Served victims and survivors, received 825 hotline contacts, and had 319 unmet requests for services - mostly for housing and emergency shelter - due to lack of resources (NNEDV).

**Statistics for Wisconsin Youth**

from the Dare2Know Campaign

1 in 4

teens in a relationship say they have been called names, harassed or put down by their partner through mobile devices.

1 in 5

teens experience dating violence in WI.

2 in 3
teens who were in an abusive relationship never told anyone about the abuse.
“Domestic violence” and “intimate partner violence” can be used interchangeably to describe a pattern of abusive behavior and coercive control that can happen in a dating, marital, or live-in (or ex-) intimate partner relationship.

“Intimate partner violence” often feels more inclusive because it more explicitly recognizes that people in any type of romantic relationship can experience abuse by a partner—regardless of age, gender identity, sexuality, or “formal” relationship status.

“Domestic violence” may tend to feel less inclusive, because sometimes people assume the term only refers to married couples or heterosexual relationships (even though this isn’t true).

“Gender-based violence” is an umbrella category for violence directed at an individual based on their biological sex or gender identity. It includes physical, sexual, verbal, emotional, and psychological abuse, threats, coercion, and economic or educational deprivation, whether occurring in public or private life. Domestic violence (or “intimate partner violence”) is one form of gender-based violence. Sexual assault is another form of gender-based violence.

Disparate Impacts

In WI & across the globe, marginalized communities - including Black, Indigenous, and People of Color, immigrants, and LGBTQ people - experience disproportionately higher rates of violence. Our focus must remain on the experience of those most impacted, centering an anti-racist, anti-white supremacist framework in all we do.

Erasure in media attention & law enforcement follow-up of violence against BIPOC, seen especially in cases of MMIWG2S, highlights that this is a systemic, racialized issue. Attempts at erasure must be met with data representation, laws, policies, and financial investment that prioritizes prevention and accountability through a transformative justice lens.

- DV impacts 1 in 3 women, and 1 in 4 men (WHO)
- DV impacts more than than 40% of Black women (IWPR)
- Immigrant women experience abuse at two times the rate of the general U.S. population
- DV impacts over half of LGBTQ+ people: 61.1% of bisexual women, 43.8% of lesbian women, 37.3% of bisexual men, & 26% of gay men reported rape, physical violence, and/or stalking from a partner, compared to 35% of heterosexual women & 29% of heterosexual men. 54% of trans respondents experienced some form of violence from a partner; 24% experienced severe violence. (Nat’l Intimate Partner & Sexual Violence Survey, U.S. Transgender Survey)
- Non-Hispanic Black & Native women are killed at 3x the rate of non-Hispanic white women.
- 4 out of 5 (84% of) American Indian and Alaska Native women have experienced violence; homicide is the 3rd leading cause of death (National Institute of Justice)

No reliable data exists on the actual number of MMIWG2S, though it is certain that instances of violence continue to be directed against Indigenous women at high rates.

Signs of DV

Abuse often begins long before it becomes physical. A few common signs that someone may experience domestic violence include:

- They prevent you from spending time with family or friends.
- They blame you for their abusive behavior and make you feel guilty.
- They put you down, call you names, or say and do things that erode your self esteem.
- They text or call all the time and get angry if you don’t answer.

End Domestic Abuse Wisconsin is the only statewide coalition against DV made up of about 51 direct service provider member programs across WI representing all 72 WI counties. End Abuse staff supports survivors and programs across the state through training and education, public policy advocacy, and legal support.

National Domestic Violence Hotline
800-799-7233 | thehotline.org

How to Get Help

For specific resources serving those in AAPI, Native, Black & Brown, LGBTQ+ Hmong, Latinx, Disabled, and Deaf communities, visit the WI Get Help Map.

Additionally, We Are Here MKE is a diverse collective of culturally sensitive resources throughout Milwaukee, offering inclusive, welcoming, nonjudgmental support: www.weareheremke.org