

Statistics

Prevalence of gender based violence

- Currently 1 in 4 Australian women will experience physical violence or sexual assault by their partner or boyfriend¹
- More than half a million women reported their children had seen or heard violence¹
- Australian police deal with an estimated 657 domestic violence matters on average every day of the year. That's one every two minutes.²
- Of women who had experienced violence from an ex-partner: 58% had never contacted the police³
- 79 women were killed by violence in Australia in 2015⁴

Among Aboriginal women

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women are five times as likely to experience physical violence and three times as likely to experience sexual violence, compared to other Australian women.⁵
- Indigenous females were 35 times as likely to be hospitalized due to family violence related assaults⁵

Sources

1. ANROWS Horizon report quoted at <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2015-10-22/one-in-four-women-a-victim-of-intimate-partner-violence/6875092>
2. Figure provided by state and territory police quoted at <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2015-05-29/domestic-violence-data/6503734>
3. <http://www.ourwatch.org.au/MediaLibraries/OurWatch/Images/03-womens-experience-of-violence.pdf>
4. <https://www.facebook.com/DestroyTheJoint/?fref=ts>
5. <http://anrows.org.au/sites/default/files/Fast-Facts---Indigenous-family-violence.pdf>
6. <http://www.ourwatch.org.au/Understanding-Violence/Facts-and-figures>
7. <https://www.vichealth.vic.gov.au/our-work/preventing-violence-against-women>

Impacts on children

- More than half of the women who experienced violence had children in their care when the violence occurred⁶
- Violence against women, particularly domestic and family violence, traumatizes children. The impact on their safety, development and wellbeing is long-term, yet mostly unseen and underestimated.⁶

Health impacts

- Violence is more damaging to the health of Victorian women aged 15–44 years than any other well-known risk factors, including high blood pressure, obesity and smoking.⁷
- Intimate partner violence has wide-ranging and persistent effects on women's physical and mental health. The greatest of these is mental illness – anxiety and depression – which make up 58% of the disease burden resulting from violence.⁷

DV and the Workforce

- Approximately 1.4 million Australian women are living in an abusive relationship, or have done so in the past. Of these women, 800,000 are in the workforce⁸
- KMPG estimates that domestic and family violence will cost Australian businesses \$609 million annually by 2021⁸

Did you know?

Being a woman is the number one risk factor for experiencing sexual assault or domestic violence

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