

Family violence in Australia: key facts.



RESOURCE
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GENDER AND VULNERABILITY¹⁴

1 woman per week is killed by a partner or former partner

1 in 3 women reported experiencing family or domestic violence at some time since the age of 15

Women with disability are twice as likely to experience violence as women without disability

Women 18-24 are twice as likely to experience sexual violence than women in other age brackets

1 in 6 women and 1 in 19 men report intimate partner violence with a current or former partner involving physical or sexual violence. 1 in 4 women and 1 in 7 men report it involves emotional abuse

95% of reported perpetrators of all forms of violence are men

HEALTH AND MEDICAL¹⁵

3 women per week are hospitalised with traumatic brain injury caused by intimate partner violence

Aboriginal women are 35 times more likely to be hospitalised due to family violence

Intimate partner violence contributes to more death, disability and illness in women aged 15 to 44 than any other preventable risk factor, including high pressure and smoking¹⁶

¹⁴ AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH ORGANISATION FOR WOMEN'S SAFETY, VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN KEY STATISTICS

www.humanrights.gov.au/our-work/family-and-domestic-violence

¹⁵ IBID

www.anrows.org.au/sites/default/files/Violence-Against-Australian-Women-Key-Statistics.pdf

¹⁶ VICHEALTH, BURDEN OF DISEASE CAUSED BY INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE

www.vichealth.vic.gov.au/media-and-resources/publications/2013-national-community-attitudes-towards-violence-against-women-survey

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FAMILY AND CHILDREN¹⁷

300,000 women experience violence from someone other than an intimate partner each year

Family violence accounts for a police call-out on average every two minutes

Children are present in 1 in 3 family violence cases reported to police

58% of victims do not involve the police, and 24% do not seek any advice or support

COMMUNITY¹⁸

Community attitudes about violence are changing, but need to keep going:

- ⊕ 21% think domestic violence can be excused if the perpetrator regrets it
- ⊕ 12% think domestic violence can be excused if the perpetrator is under a lot of stress
- ⊕ 11% think domestic violence can be excused if the victim is affected by alcohol
- ⊕ 78% find it hard to understand why victims stay in violent relationships, and 51% think most women could leave if they wanted to

PREVENTION¹⁹

Family violence is a fundamental violation of human rights, and one that Australia has an obligation to prevent under international law

Promoting respectful, non-violent and equal relationships can benefit the whole community

¹⁷ AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS, PERSONAL SAFETY SURVEY

www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/4906.0

¹⁸ VICHEALTH, NATIONAL COMMUNITY ATTITUDES TOWARDS VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN SURVEY

www.vichealth.vic.gov.au/media-and-resources/publications/2013-national-community-attitudes-towards-violence-against-women-survey

¹⁹ AUSTRALIAN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

www.humanrights.gov.au/our-work/family-and-domestic-violence