

Does domestic violence lead to homicide?

References and Citations

Data on intimate partner homicide provides a glaring picture of the magnitude and devastating toll that intimate partner violence can take.

- Intimate partner homicides comprise approximately 10% of all US murders.

Source: Hamby, S. L. (2005). Measuring gender differences in partner violence: Implications from research on other forms of violent and socially undesirable behavior. *Sex Roles*, 52(11/12), 725-742.

- In recent years, females have made up approximately 70% of victims killed by an intimate partner.

Source: Catalano, S., Smith, E., Snyder, H., & Rand, M. (2009, September). *Female victims of violence*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics.

A woman is far more likely to be killed by her spouse, an intimate acquaintance, or a family member than by a stranger.

- In recent years, 2 out of 5 female murder victims were killed by an intimate.

Source: Cooper, A., & Smith, E. (2011, November). *Homicide Trends In The United States, 1980-2008*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics.

- In 2011, **sixteen (16) times** as many females were murdered by a male they knew than were killed by male strangers. For victims who knew their offenders, **61%** of them were wives or intimate acquaintances of their killers.

Source: Violence Policy Center. (2013, September). *When Men Murder Women: An Analysis of 2010 Homicide Data*. Washington, DC.

Research findings indicate that guns and threats to kill represent an increased risk for intimate partner homicide.

- Women threatened with murder by their partners have been found to be 15 times more likely than other women to be killed.

Source: Campbell, J. C., Webster, D., Koziol-McLain, J., Block, C. R., Campbell, D., Curry, M. A., Gary, F., McFarlane, J., Sachs, C., Sharps, P., Ulrich, Y., & Wilt, S. A. (2003, November). *Assessing Risk Factors for Intimate Partner Homicide*. Washington, DC: National Institute of Justice (NIJ).

- When a gun was in the house, an abused woman was 6 times more likely than other abused women to be killed.

Source: Campbell, J. C., Webster, D., Koziol-McLain, J., Block, C. R., Campbell, D., Curry, M. A., Gary, F., McFarlane, J., Sachs, C., Sharps, P., Ulrich, Y., & Wilt, S. A. (2003, November). *Assessing Risk Factors for Intimate Partner Homicide*. Washington, DC: National Institute of Justice (NIJ).