

# Kentucky Intimate Partner Violence Surveillance Project

The Intimate Partner Violence Surveillance Project works to develop a comprehensive picture of intimate partner violence and abuse (IPV) against women in Kentucky. This information is used to increase community awareness, to train professionals, to develop early identification and effective intervention strategies, and to guide agency policies and legislative actions that enhance public safety and well-being.

Kentucky's IPV surveillance data sources:

- Hospital emergency department and inpatient medical records
- Adult Protective Services records of the Cabinet for Health Family Services, Department for Community Based Services
- Kentucky Trauma Registry, Death Certificates, Domestic Violence Protection Orders, newspapers, coroner's reports, arrest records, reporting forms, etc.

Medical professionals documented IPV in 27% of all suicide attempts by women in one Kentucky hospital (2002).



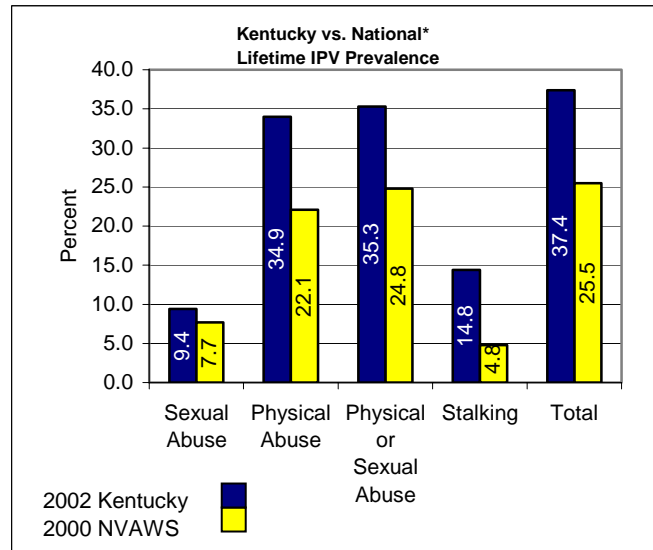
The IPV Surveillance Project also uses data from an annual (2000-2003) statewide telephone survey. This IPV survey is conducted each year by the University of Kentucky Survey Research Center. A random sample of over 2000 adult women from across Kentucky is asked about IPV each year. These findings complete the IPV picture and are used to determine changes in Kentucky's IPV prevalence rates over time.

## Snapshot of 2002 Telephone Survey Findings --- Abused Adult Women in Kentucky (Lifetime Prevalence)

37.4% of all women reported that an intimate partner had threatened, physically or sexually abused, or stalked them.  
 9.4% of all women reported sexual abuse or violence by an intimate partner.  
 74.7% of abused women reported that they suffered multiple forms of violence from an intimate partner.

### Of the *abused* women . . .

- 74.0% of physically or sexually abused women were injured and 68.8% of them sustained more than one type of injury.
- 55.3% said their intimate partner was under the influence of alcohol or drugs during the most recent abuse.
- 52.5% reported some type of psychological abuse.
- 47.1% had their personal property stolen or destroyed.
- 44.2% reported their children were present during abuse.
- 42.5% said an intimate partner tried to strangle them.
- 39.8% of perpetrators used the children to threaten her (e.g., lose custody or take the children away).
- 39.1% said the frequency *and* severity of the abuse had increased throughout the relationship.
- 37.3% said their intimate partner threatened suicide
- 35.4% were stalked and "very frightened."
- 29.2% were hurt with a weapon.
- 29.2% of injured women sought medical attention.
- 27.7% said an intimate partner threatened them.
- 20.2% reported abuse during pregnancy.
- 18.7% were still involved with their perpetrator (threats, physical or sexual abuse).
- 15.7% had been knocked or rendered unconscious.
- 15.1% said their intimate partner had harmed a pet and 5.3% reported that he had killed a pet.



**Kentucky women are at risk for IPV at rates that exceed national statistics.**

Source: National Violence Against Women Survey (NVAWS), 2000.

When asked if a doctor or nurse had EVER screened them for IPV, less than 13.0% of all women interviewed said 'yes.' Of the women who had NEVER been screened for IPV by a health professional, 10.7% said they HAD experienced IPV.



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