

Domestic Violence in COLORADO

WHAT IS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE?

Domestic violence is the willful intimidation, physical assault, battery, sexual assault, and/or other abusive behavior as part of a systematic pattern of power and control perpetrated by one intimate partner against another. It includes physical violence, sexual violence, threats, and emotional abuse. The frequency and severity of domestic violence can vary dramatically.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN COLORADO

- 32.7% of Colorado women¹ and 28.6%² of Colorado men experience intimate partner physical violence, intimate partner sexual violence and/or intimate partner stalking in their lives.
- In 2014, 16,700 people reported one or more domestic violence crimes to Colorado law enforcement. Many other domestic violence victims/survivors did not contact law enforcement.³
- 25 Coloradans were killed by former or current intimate partners in 2014; almost 70% of those were killed with guns.⁴
- In 2014, 1,018 people in Colorado were abducted by current or former intimate partners. Over half were abducted by current or former dating partners.⁵
- A 2014 survey of 78% of Colorado domestic violence programs found that on the day of the survey, participating programs reported serving 904 victims/survivors; 163 were turned away due to lack of resources.⁶
- Approximately 325,000 Coloradans are stalked during their lifetimes.⁷
- As of December 31, 2015, Colorado had submitted 186 domestic violence misdemeanor and 212 protective order records to the NICS Index.⁸

DID YOU KNOW?

- 1 in 3 women and 1 in 4 men in the United States have experienced some form of physical violence by an intimate partner.⁹
- On a typical day, domestic violence hotlines receive approximately 21,000 calls, an average of close to 15 calls every minute.¹⁰
- Intimate partner violence accounts for 15% of all violent crime.¹¹
- Abusers' access to firearms increases the risk of intimate partner femicide at least five-fold. When firearms have been used in the most severe abuse incident, the risk increases 41-fold.¹²
- 72% of all murder-suicides involve an intimate partner; 94% of the victims of these crimes are female.¹³

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE-RELATED FIREARMS LAWS IN COLORADO

- Domestic violence misdemeanants are prohibited by Colorado law from possessing firearms. However, this prohibition does not apply to dating abusers.¹⁴
- Respondents to final and temporary protective orders are prohibited from possessing firearms for the duration of the order. The temporary protective order prohibitor applies to dating partners; the final protective order prohibitor does not.¹⁵
- Upon prohibition resulting from a domestic violence conviction or final protective order, prohibited persons must surrender their firearms.¹⁶

If you are in crisis, contact The National Domestic Violence Hotline at **1-800-799-SAFE (7233)** or www.TheHotline.org.

Please visit the **National Coalition Against Domestic Violence's** website at www.ncadv.org for more fact sheets, membership information and valuable resources.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE-RELATED FIREARMS LAWS IN COLORADO (continued)

- Background checks are required for all gun sales in Colorado.¹⁷
- When releasing a domestic violence misdemeanor from state custody, the Department of Corrections must notify him/her that (s)he is prohibited from possessing firearms.¹⁸
- Colorado could strengthen its laws to further protect victims and survivors from gun violence by:
 - Prohibiting dating violence and stalking misdemeanants from possessing firearms and/or ammunition; and
 - Requiring law enforcement to confiscate firearms when responding to domestic violence incidents.

¹ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (2014). *Lifetime prevalence of rape, physical violence, and/or stalking by an intimate partner by state of residence—U.S. women, NISVS 2010*. Retrieved from http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/nisvs/state_tables_74.html.

² Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (2014). *Lifetime prevalence of rape, physical violence, and/or stalking by an intimate partner by state of residence—U.S. men, NISVS 2010*. Retrieved from http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/nisvs/state_tables_75.html.

³ Colorado Bureau of Investigations (2015). *2014 domestic violence report*. Retrieved from http://crimeinco.cbi.state.co.us/cic2k14/supplemental_reports/domestic.html.

⁴ Ibid

⁵ Colorado Bureau of Investigations (2015). *2014 domestic violence report: kidnapping*. Retrieved from http://crimeinco.cbi.state.co.us/cic2k14/supplemental_reports/dvkidnapping.html.

⁶ National Network to End Domestic Violence (2015). *'14 domestic violence counts Colorado summary*. Retrieved from <http://nnedv.org/downloads/Census/DVCounts2014/CO.pdf>.

⁷ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (2014). *The national intimate partner and sexual violence survey (NISVS): Detailed state tables*. Retrieved from http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/nisvs/state_tables_73.html.

⁸ FBI Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) Division: National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) Section (2016). *Active records in the NICS Index as of December 31, 2015*. Retrieved from <https://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/nics/reports/active-records-in-the-nics-index-by-state>.

⁹ Black, M.C., Basile, K.C., Breiding, M.J., Smith, S.G., Walters, M.L., Merrick, M.T., Chen, J., & Stevens, M. (2011). *The national intimate partner and sexual violence survey: 2010 summary report*. Retrieved from http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/nisvs_report2010-a.pdf.

¹⁰ National Network to End Domestic Violence (2015). *2014 domestic violence counts: A 24-hour census of domestic violence shelters and services*. Retrieved from http://nnedv.org/downloads/Census/DVCounts2014/DVCounts14_NatlSummary_Color-2.pdf.

¹¹ Truman, J. & Morgan, R. (2014). *Nonfatal domestic violence, 2003-2012*. Retrieved from <http://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/ndv0312.pdf>.

¹² Campbell, J.C., Webster, D., Koziol-McLain, J., Block, C., Campbell, D., Curry, M. A., Gary, F., Glass, N., McFarlane, J., Sachs, C., Sharps, P., Ulrich, Y., Wilt, S., Manganello, J., Xu, X., Schollenberger, J., Frye, V., & Lauphon, K. (2003). Risk factors for femicide in abusive relationships: Results from a multisite case control study. *American Journal of Public Health, 93*(7), 1089-1097.

¹³ Violence Policy Center. (2012). *American roulette: Murder-suicide in the United States*. Retrieved from www.vpc.org/studies/amroul2012.pdf.

¹⁴ Colo. Rev. Stat. § 18-6-801(8).

¹⁵ Colo. Rev. Stat. § 13-14-104.5; Colo. Rev. Stat. § 13-14-105.5.

¹⁶ Colo. Rev. Stat. § 18-6-801(8); Colo. Rev. Stat. § 13-14-105.5.

¹⁷ Colo. Rev. Stat. § 18-12-112(1)(a) & (b).

¹⁸ Colo. Rev. Stat. § 18-6-801(8).

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