

Intimate Partner Violence

Division of Injury and
Violence Prevention

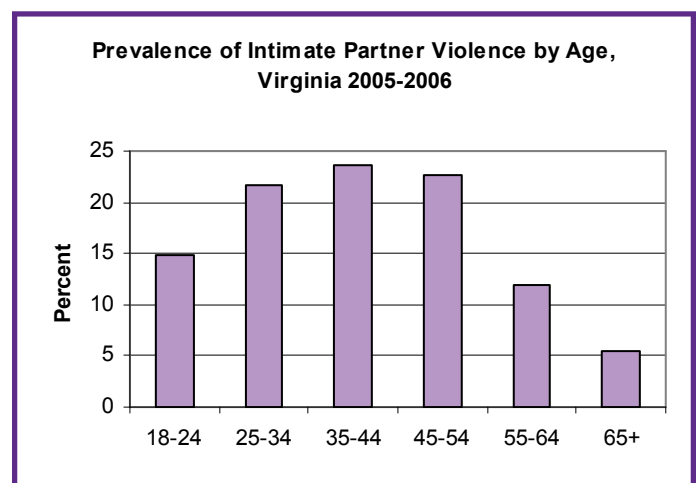
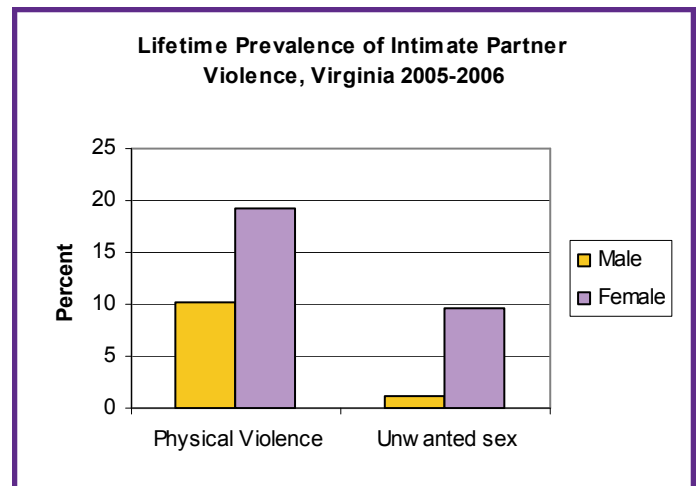
BRFSS Fact Sheet 2005-2006

Intimate partner violence (IPV) is defined as a pattern of assaultive and coercive behaviors that may include inflicted physical injury, psychological abuse, sexual assault, progressive social isolation, stalking, deprivation, intimidation, and threats. These behaviors are perpetrated by someone who is, was, or wishes to be involved in an intimate or dating relationship with an adult or adolescent, and are aimed at establishing control by one partner over another (1).

Most acts of intimate partner violence are not reported to authorities. As a result, statistics on the prevalence and incidence of IPV are underestimated (2). To help provide a more reliable estimate, several nationwide, representative telephone surveys have been conducted. The Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), an on-going telephone health survey system, tracks health conditions and risk behaviors of adults in the United States. In 2005 and 2006, the Virginia BRFSS survey included questions on Intimate Partner Violence. This fact sheet uses this data from 2005 and 2006 to estimate the extent of intimate partner violence among Virginian adults 18 and older.

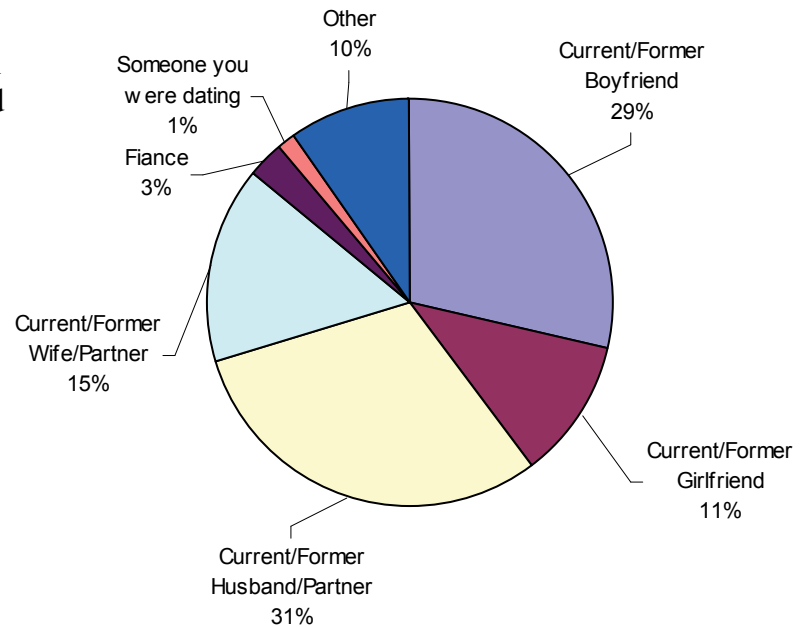
Lifetime Prevalence of IPV

- 17.4% of Virginian adults experienced IPV (threatened, attempted, or actual physical or sexual violence) at some point in their life.
- 1 in 5 women and 1 in 6 men experienced IPV at some point in their life.
- IPV was higher among Hispanic women (28.7%) than other (27%), white (22%), or black (21%) women.
- The lifetime prevalence of IPV was highest among 35-44 year olds (23.5%).
- The lifetime prevalence of experiencing physical violence (i.e. being hit, slapped, pushed, or kicked) by an intimate partner was 15%.
- The prevalence of experiencing unwanted sex by a current or former intimate partner was 5.5%. The prevalence was almost eight times higher among women (9.6%) than men (1.2%).
- 14% reported having been **threatened** with physical violence by an intimate partner, while 13% reported that an intimate partner had **attempted** violence against them.



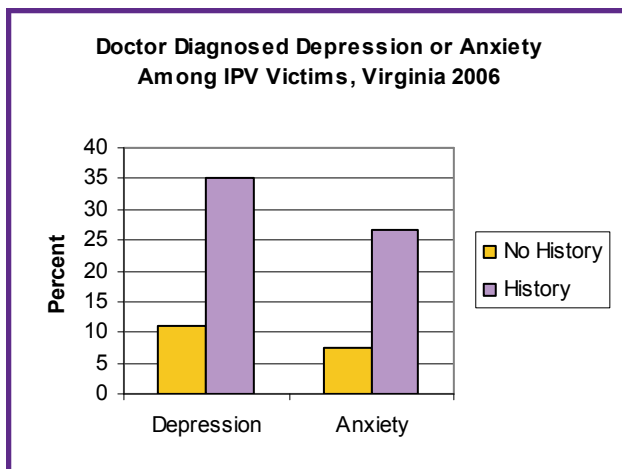
- In 2006, Virginians with a lifetime history of IPV (threatened, attempted, or actual physical and sexual violence) were more likely to report a medical diagnosis of depression or anxiety (35% and 27% respectively) than those with no history of IPV (11% and 7%). *(The question relating to depression/anxiety diagnosis was not included in the 2005 BRFSS. As a result, only 2006 sexual violence data was used in the analysis related to depression/anxiety.)*

Relationship of Perpetrator to IPV Victim, Virginia 2006



12 Month Incidence of IPV

- Almost 8% of adults reported experiencing IPV in the last 12 months. 40.6% of these adults reported injuries as a result of the physical violence or unwanted sex (i.e. bruises, cuts, scrapes, black eyes, vaginal or anal tears, or broken bones).



Resources

Project Radar

www.vahealth.org/civp/projectradarva

Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance

www.vsdvalliance.org

National Domestic Violence Hotline

1-800-799-SAFE (7233)

www.ndvh.org

The RAINN Network

www.rainn.org

National Sexual Violence Resource Center

www.nsvrc.org



References:

1. Intimate Partner Violence Prevention. Injury Center. Center for Disease Control and Prevention. www.cdc.gov/ncipc/dvp/IPV/.

2. Criminal Victimization, 2005. National Crime Victimization Survey. U.S. Department of Justice. www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/.

Division of Injury and Violence Prevention

Virginia Department of Health

1-800-732-8333

www.vahealth.org/civp