

10 Domestic Violence Facts

1. Nationally, approximately half of all women and children experiencing homelessness are fleeing domestic violence ¹
2. 74% of Americans personally know someone who is or has been a victim of domestic violence²
3. One in every four women will experience domestic violence in her lifetime³
4. Females who are 20-24 years of age are at the greatest risk of non-fatal intimate partner violence⁴
5. Most cases of domestic violence are never reported to the police⁵
6. Domestic violence costs \$37 billion annually in court, law enforcement, social service, medical, and mental health costs⁶
7. Access to shelter services leads to a 60-70% reduction in incidence and severity of re-assault⁷
8. Shelter services led to greater reduction in severe re-assault than did seeking court or law enforcement protection, or moving to a new location⁸
9. Children who witness domestic violence tend to emulate the abusive parent, suffer poor health, and exhibit academic problems, including dropping out of school⁹
10. Children who witness domestic violence are more likely to commit suicide than are children who do not live with abuse¹⁰

¹ <http://nationalhomeless.org/publications/facts/families.pdf>

² Domestic Violence Research Center, www.dvrc-or.org/domestic/violence/resources/C61/

³ National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, [http://www.ncadv.org/files/DomesticViolenceFactSheet\(National\).pdf](http://www.ncadv.org/files/DomesticViolenceFactSheet(National).pdf)

⁴ Domestic Violence Research Center, <http://www.dvrc-or.org/domestic/violence/resources/C61/>

⁵ National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, [http://www.ncadv.org/files/DomesticViolenceFactSheet\(National\).pdf](http://www.ncadv.org/files/DomesticViolenceFactSheet(National).pdf)

⁶ Safe Horizon, <http://www.safehorizon.org/index/what-we-do-2/domestic-violence--abuse-53/domestic-violence-the-facts-195.html>

⁷ Domestic Violence Research Center, <http://www.dvrc-or.org/domestic/violence/resources/C61/>

⁸ Domestic Violence Research Center, <http://www.dvrc-or.org/domestic/violence/resources/C61/>

⁹ Minnesota Center against Violence and Abuse, <http://www.mincava.umn.edu/documents/nativeamerican/nativeamerican.html#id505946>

¹⁰ UNICEF, <http://www.unicef.org/protection/files/BehindClosedDoors.pdf>