

Massachusetts Department of Public Health  
**Division of Sexual & Domestic  
Violence Prevention & Services**

*In partnership with sexual and domestic violence service providers and other stakeholders, we work to eliminate sexual and domestic violence (SDV) and support the health of those impacted by such violence. We challenge the social conditions that contribute to SDV and promote respect in relationships of every kind.*

# Sexual Violence:

Any nonconsensual sexual contact or penetration, intentional touching, trafficking, and non-contact acts of a sexual nature such as voyeurism and verbal or behavioral sexual harassment by one person towards another.

# Domestic Violence *(Intimate Partner Violence):*

A pattern of coercive behavior that one person uses to systematically gain and maintain power and control over another in a close personal relationship.

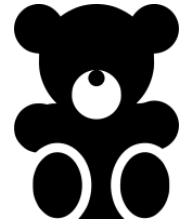
*Can include physical violence, sexual violence, stalking, emotional abuse, verbal abuse, and financial abuse.*



In MA, over  
**1 in 3** women and



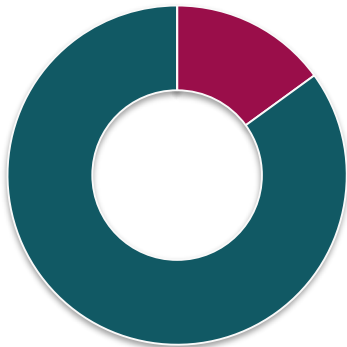
**1 in 5** men  
have experienced  
some form of contact  
SV in their lives.



Over **25%** of  
**children** have  
been exposed to IPV.

## Sexual & Domestic Violence is Endemic in Our Society

IPV accounts for **15%**  
of all violent crime.



In MA, more than  
**1 in 4** women

and more than



**1 in 8** men in have  
experienced IPV\* with IPV-  
related impact in their  
lifetime.

# Physical & Psychological Harm

## Injury



- Chronic pain
- STIs
- Depression, anxiety, suicidal thoughts
- Compromised immune system (DV)
- Pre-term or low-birthweight pregnancies
- Migraines and headaches (DV)

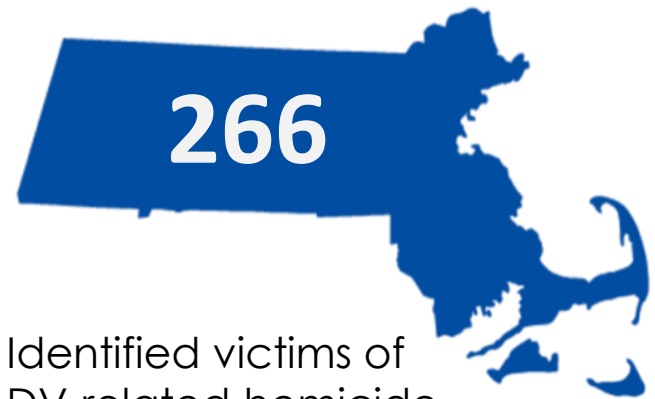
## Chronic Disease Risk Behaviors

- Smoking
- Excessive alcohol use



## Homicide

Nearly half of all female homicide victims are killed by a current or former **male intimate partner**.



Identified victims of DV-related homicide in MA (2003-2012)



# DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COUNTS Massachusetts Summary

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On September 13, 2017, 48 out of 48 (100%) identified domestic violence programs in Massachusetts participated in the National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information reported by these 48 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

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## 1,760 Victims Served in One Day

712 adult and child victims of domestic violence found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.

1,048 adult and child victims received non-residential assistance and services, including counseling, legal advocacy, and children's support groups.

## 596 Hotline Calls Answered

Domestic violence hotlines are a lifeline for victims in danger, providing support, information, safety planning, and resources. During the 24-hour survey period, local and state hotline staff in Massachusetts answered on average 25 hotline calls per hour.

***Domestic Violence Counts is a project of the National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV)***

## 298 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day, of which 64% (190) were for Housing

Victims made nearly 300 requests for services—including emergency shelter, housing, transportation, childcare, legal representation, and more—that could not be provided because programs lacked the resources to meet victims' needs.

❖ “Through our transitional housing program, we provided housing to a woman with disabilities fleeing her 35-year marriage. She commented that without this program, she never would have left her husband. She stated, ‘I would be dead because he would have killed me or I would have killed myself. I just couldn’t take it any longer.’”

The National Domestic Violence

# HOTLINE




1.800.799.SAFE (7233) • 1.800.787.3224 (TTY)

## Massachusetts State Report

Based on The Hotline's contacts documented January – December 2018

In 2018, the National Domestic Violence Hotline documented\* **4,503 contacts** from Massachusetts. The state ranks 16th in terms of contact volume to The Hotline. The Hotline provides crisis intervention, safety planning, referrals and domestic violence (DV) and intimate partner violence (IPV) education for these contacts.

*\*Contacts documented refers to the calls and online chats where a location was self-disclosed by the caller or chatter. Any email contacts where a location was self-disclosed are represented in the total.*

	Phone	3,628
	Chat	874
	TTY	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>4,503</b>

### What Victims Are Experiencing

# 96%

**Emotional/Verbal Abuse**

*degradation, threats, insults, humiliation, isolation, etc.*

# 66%

**Physical Abuse**

*hitting, biting, choking, etc.*

# 25%

**Economic/Financial Abuse**

*control finances, ruin credit, etc.*

# 16%

**Digital Abuse**

*steal passwords, constant texts, etc.*

# 11%

**Sexual Abuse**

*rape, exploitation, coercion, etc.*

## Victim/Survivor Needs

### Commonly Requested Services:

DV Shelter	1,426	39.8%
Legal Advocacy	793	22.1%
Individual Professional Counseling	643	17.9%
DV Support Groups	355	9.9%
Legal Representation	238	6.6%
Protective/Restraining Order	226	6.3%



Referrals to Local Service Providers

**4,804**

Offers to Direct Connect

**1,430**

Referrals to Other Resources

**2,815**

### Top 10 Cities by Contact Volume

1. Boston	30.5%
2. Springfield	5.8%
3. Worcester	5.2%
4. Lowell	2.5%
5. Brockton	2.0%
6. New Bedford	1.6%
7. Lawrence	1.5%
8. Cambridge	1.5%
9. Fall River	1.3%
10. Chicopee	1.2%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>53.1%</b>








# Massachusetts State Report

Based on *loveisrespect* contacts documented January–December 2018

In 2018, *loveisrespect* documented\* **427 contacts** from Massachusetts. The state ranks 16th in terms of contact volume to *loveisrespect*. *loveisrespect* provides crisis intervention, safety planning, referrals and domestic violence (DV) and intimate partner violence (IPV) education for these contacts.

*\*Contacts documented refers to the calls and online chats where a location was self-disclosed by the caller or chatter. Any email contacts where a location was self-disclosed are represented in the total.*

	Phone	168
	Chat	181
	Text	78
	<b>Total</b>	<b>427</b>

## What Victims Are Experiencing

**93%**

**Emotional/Verbal Abuse**

*degradation, threats, insults, humiliation, isolation, etc.*

**36%**

**Physical Abuse**

*hitting, biting, choking, etc.*

**26%**

**Sexual Abuse**

*rape, exploitation, coercion, etc.*

**22%**

**Digital Abuse**

*steal passwords, constant texts, etc.*

**13%**

**Economic/Financial Abuse**

*control finances, ruin credit, etc.*

## Victim/Survivor Needs

### Commonly Requested Services:

DV Shelter	10	6.3%
Legal Advocacy	23	14.4%
Individual Professional Counseling	45	28.1%
DV Support Groups	38	23.8%
Legal Representation	3	1.9%
Protective/Restraining Order	8	5.0%



Referrals to Local Service Providers

**170**

Offers to Direct Connect

**21**

Referrals to Other Resources

**511**

### Top 10 Cities by Contact Volume

1. Boston	45.9%
2. Worcester	4.1%
3. Springfield	2.6%
4. Cambridge	2.6%
5. Millbury	2.3%
6. Medford	2.0%
7. Lynn	1.5%
8. Woburn	1.0%
9. Quincy	1.0%
10. Lowell	1.0%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>64.0%</b>

# Economic Harm: *Rape*

**\$122,461**

**per victim**

Lifetime economic burden  
of rape among U.S. adults



Includes:

- **medical costs**
- **lost work productivity** among victims & perpetrators
- **criminal justice activities**
- **other** (e.g., victim property loss, damage)

**U.S. total population discounted  
lifetime cost of rape**

# Economic Harm: *Intimate Partner Violence*

**\$103,767**

**per female victim**  
Lifetime economic burden  
of IPV among U.S. women



**\$23,414**

**per male victim**  
Lifetime economic burden  
of IPV among U.S. men



Includes:

- **medical costs**
- **lost work productivity** among victims & perpetrators
- **criminal justice activities**
- **other** (e.g., victim property loss, damage)

**IPV population economic burden** is nearly \$3.6 trillion over victims' lifetimes (2014).

# Sexual & Domestic Violence Affects All Groups of People

Genders

Race/ethnicities

Ages

Income Levels

Sexual Orientations



# SDV & Inequities

Sexual and domestic violence are acts of **power** and **control**.



People in marginalized communities that have been historically and systematically oppressed are often at **higher risk**.

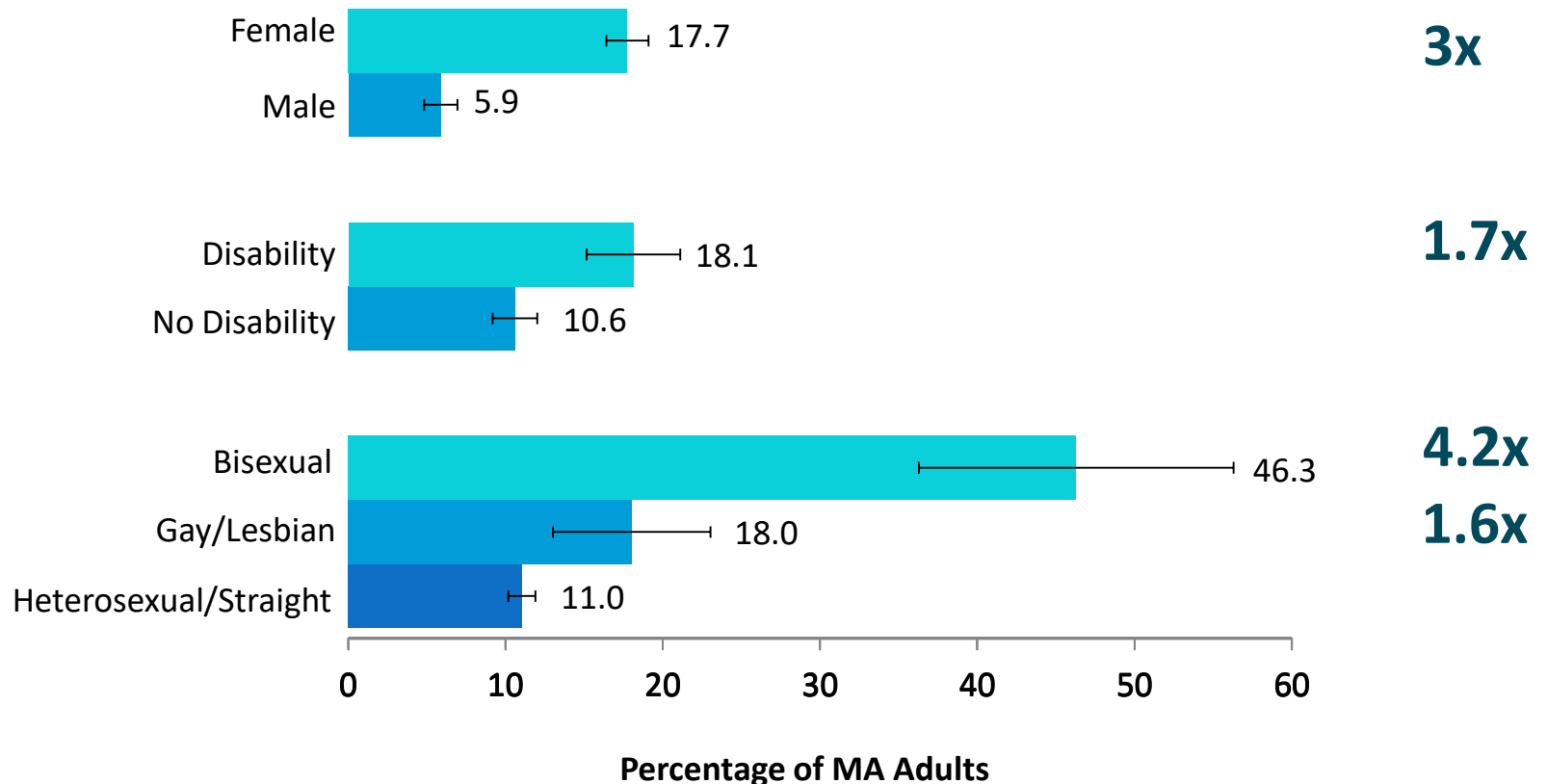


Certain groups experience SDV at **higher rates**, have **worse outcomes**, and/or **less access to resources**.

# SDV & Inequities


HIGHER PREVALENCE

Percentage of MA Adults Reporting  
**Any Lifetime Sexual Violence Victimization**



# SDV & Inequities

## WORSE OUTCOMES



Massachusetts  
DV-related homicide

### Black Non-Hispanic women

are more likely than **White Non-Hispanic women**  
to be killed by an intimate partner.

**4x**

### Immigrants

are more likely than **non-immigrants**  
to be killed by an intimate partner.

**2x**



# SDV & Inequities

## LESS ACCESS TO RESOURCES

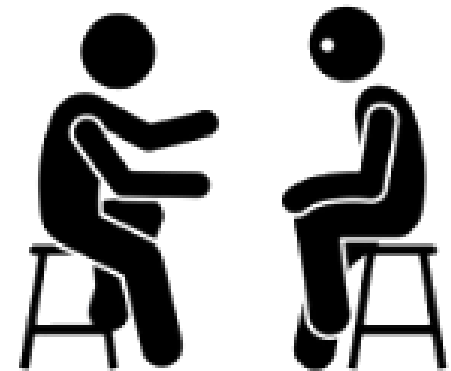
Certain groups – including LGBTQ/T people, immigrants, people with disabilities, people living in rural areas, and elders—face outright denial of services or not being able to access services due to:

- geographic inaccessibility
- linguistic barriers
- lack of physical access to facilities
- mistrust of law enforcement
- lack of culturally sensitive services

*What can we do?*

# Mitigate harm and support survivors through direct services

- Individual Support Sessions
- Group Support Sessions
- Survivor Advocacy
- Supervised Visitation
- Housing Stabilization
- Children Exposed to Domestic Violence



*What can we do?*



**Mitigate harm and support survivors through direct services**

**In FY18, among DPH-funded programs:**

Over **11,052** adults participated in DV survivor services

Over **4,365** adults/adolescents participated in SV survivor services

**2,507** adults participated in DV offender services

# Funded service models

## **Residential:**

- Emergency Shelter (23)
- Housing Stabilization (9)
- Domestic Violence, Substance Misuse, and Trauma Shelter (1)

## **Community-Based:**

- General Community-Based Domestic Violence Services (34)

# Funded service models, continued

## Community-Based, continued:

- Rape Crisis Center (16)
- Supervised Visitation Services (12)
- Children Exposed to Domestic Violence services (13)
- Intimate Partner Abuse Education Programs (15)
- Sexual and Domestic Violence Services for Communities Experiencing Inequities (17)

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