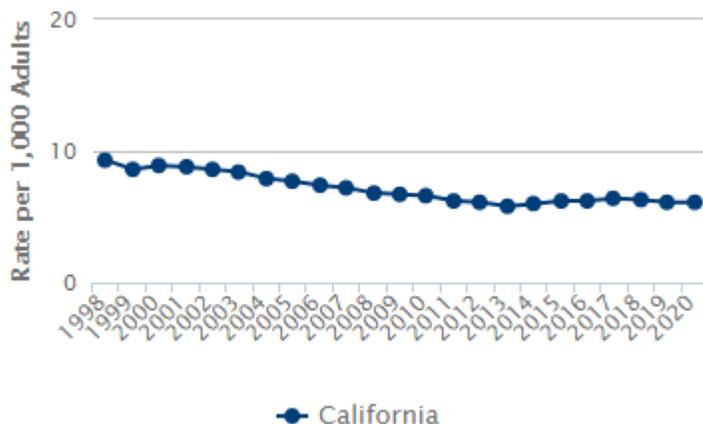


Intimate Partner Violence in California

Domestic Violence Calls for Assistance per 1,000 Adults



Definition: Number of domestic violence-related calls for assistance per 1,000 adults ages 18-69 (e.g., in 2020, there were 6.1 domestic violence calls for assistance per 1,000 California adults).

Data Source: California Dept. of Justice Criminal Justice Statistics Center, [Domestic Violence-Related Calls for Assistance](#) (Jul. 2021); California Dept. of Finance, [Population Estimates and Projections](#) (May 2021).

Domestic Violence Calls for Assistance per 1,000 Adults: 2020; Showing Counties

What It Is

Kidsdata.org provides the number of domestic violence-related calls to law enforcement by county and city, along with county-level rates of domestic violence calls per 1,000 residents ages 18-69. Domestic violence—as defined in [California Penal Code 13700](#)—involves acts, attempts, or threats of bodily injury between adults or minors currently or formerly in a relationship of marriage, engagement, cohabitation, or dating, or who together have had a child.

Why This Topic Is Important

Intimate partner violence (IPV) is a preventable public health problem affecting millions in the U.S. Nationwide, it is estimated that around 1 in 4 women and 1 in 10 men have been impacted by IPV in the form of stalking, sexual violence, or physical violence. Psychological aggression by intimate partners also is widespread, with 38 million men and 43 million women having experienced IPV in this form at some point in their lives. Victims of IPV can suffer psychological trauma, physical injury, and even death. Among U.S. female homicide victims, more than half are killed by current or past male intimate partners. Survivors face increased risk for a range of long-term adverse emotional, social, and health outcomes, and the effects extend beyond the direct victim. Nearly 1 in 5 U.S. children have been exposed to IPV in their lifetimes, and an estimated 15.5 million live in households in which physical IPV occurred in the previous year. These children—even if they are not the targets of violence—are at increased risk for physical, social, behavioral, and developmental problems. Child witnesses of IPV also are at higher risk of becoming abusers or victims later in life.

Social and economic crises exacerbate IPV. Increases in IPV have been documented in the period after the COVID-19 outbreak, as many families faced increased financial stress, unemployment, social isolation, anxiety, and other challenges. IPV also exacts a substantial economic toll in medical care, lost productivity, criminal justice activities, and other costs. These have been estimated at \$8.3 billion annually and \$3.6 trillion over the lifetimes of those impacted.

While IPV occurs across all demographic groups, some are disproportionately affected, including young people, LGBTQ populations, pregnant women, and American Indian/Alaska Native and African American/black women. For many victims, IPV begins early in life. Among U.S. survivors of stalking, sexual violence, and

Number of Domestic Violence Calls for Assistance: 2020

Locations	Number
California	160,646
Anaheim (City)	1,289
Bakersfield (City)	1,783
Fresno (City)	5,527
Long Beach (City)	2,084
Los Angeles (City)	17,084
Oakland (City)	2,453
Sacramento (City)	1,891
San Diego (City)	6,802
San Francisco (City)	2,852
San Jose (City)	4,339

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physical violence, an estimated 11 million women and 5 million men experienced some form of IPV before age 18. Further, a national survey of dating youth ages 12-18 indicates that more than two-thirds (69%) have experienced physical, psychological, or sexual relationship abuse.

How Children Are Faring

In 2020, the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic, a total of 160,646 domestic violence-related calls were made to law enforcement in California. This represents a rate of 6.1 calls per 1,000 adults ages 18-69, similar to 2019 levels. Statewide, rates have decreased more than 30% compared with 1998, when there were 9.3 calls per 1,000 adults. The decline is evident at the county level, as well; rates fell in 42 of the 55 counties with data during this period. Despite the decline, county rates of domestic violence calls for assistance continue to vary widely, from fewer than 4 calls per 1,000 adults to more than 14 per 1,000 in 2020.

View references for this text and additional research on this topic:

<https://www.kidsdata.org/topic/3/intimate-partner-violence/summary>



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