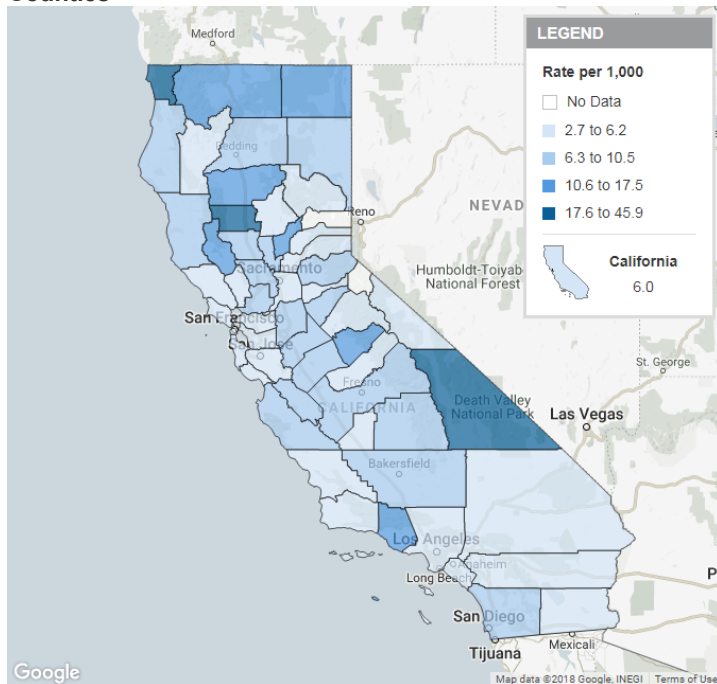


Intimate Partner Violence in California

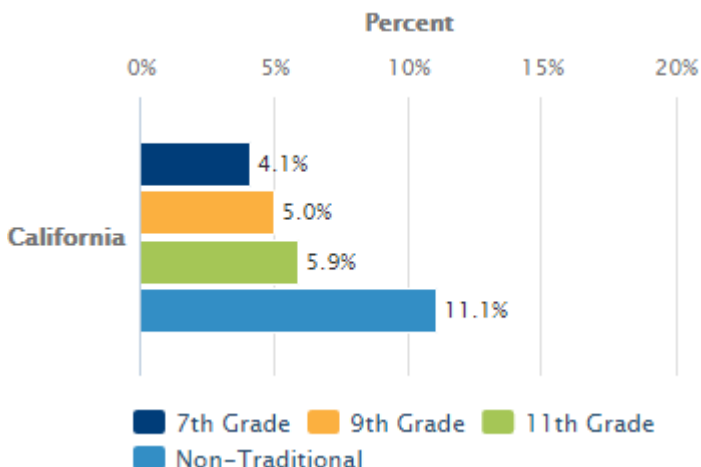
Rate of Domestic Violence Calls for Assistance: 2014; Showing Counties



Definition: Number of domestic violence calls for assistance per 1,000 adults ages 18-69.

Data Source: California Dept. of Justice, Criminal Justice Statistics Center, [Domestic Violence-Related Calls for Assistance Database \(1998-2003\) and Online Query System](#) (Aug. 2015).

Youth Who Have Experienced Dating Violence in the Past Year, by Grade Level: 2011-2013



Definition: Percentage of public school students in grades 7, 9, 11, and non-traditional students reporting that they have been hit, slapped, or intentionally physically hurt by a boyfriend/girlfriend in the past year.

What It Is

On kidsdata.org, indicators of intimate partner violence include the number of domestic violence calls to law enforcement each year by county and city, and the rate of such calls per 1,000 residents ages 18-69 by county. In addition, data include student reports of whether or not they have been hit, slapped, or intentionally physically hurt by a girlfriend or boyfriend in the past 12 months, for grades 7, 9, and 11 and for students in non-traditional schools. The youth dating violence indicators come from the [California Healthy Kids Survey \(CHKS\)](#) and the [California Student Survey \(CSS\)](#), through a partnership with [WestEd](#) (which developed and administers the surveys) and the [California Department of Education](#). The data on domestic violence calls for assistance come from the [California Department of Justice](#).

Why This Topic Is Important

Violence between intimate partners or former partners in dating or marriage relationships can result in physical injury, psychological trauma, and even death (1). Violence may include intimidation, physical assault, battery, sexual assault, emotional abuse, stalking, and other abusive behavior. The negative effects of intimate partner violence also can extend beyond the direct victim (2). For example, an estimated 10 million U.S. children are exposed to domestic violence each year, and research shows that children who witness such violence—even if they are not the targets—are at increased risk for mental, physical, behavioral, social, and developmental impairments (2, 3). Child witnesses of family violence also are at higher risk of becoming abusers or victims themselves later in life (3, 4).

An estimated 3 in 10 women and 1 in 10 men in the U.S. have experienced intimate partner violence (1). These figures are considered underestimates, as many victims do not report it (1). Among teens, national survey data show that about 1 in 3 youth ages 14-20 report experiencing dating violence, including physical, sexual, or psychological aggression (5). A 2013 survey also found that 1 in 10 U.S. high school students reported being physically victimized by a dating partner in the previous year (6). Adolescent victims of dating violence are more likely than their non-victimized peers to use substances, show symptoms of depression/anxiety, and engage in antisocial, suicidal, or risky sexual behavior (5, 6).

Data Source: California Department of Education, [California Healthy Kids Survey](#) and [California Student Survey](#) (WestEd).

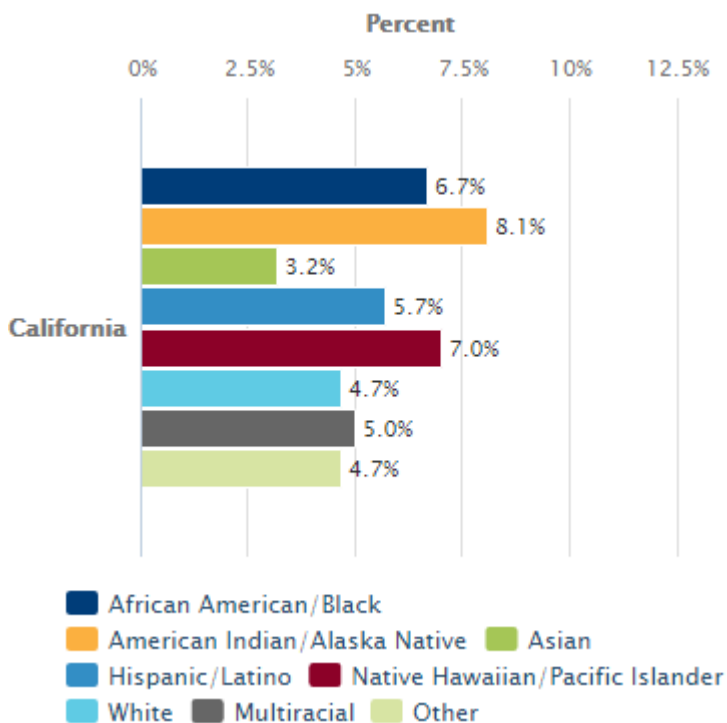
Youth Who Have Experienced Dating Violence in the Past Year, by Gender and Grade Level: 2011-2013

California	Percent	
	Female	Male
Grade Level	Yes	Yes
7th Grade	2.7%	5.3%
9th Grade	4.7%	5.2%
11th Grade	5.0%	6.9%
Non-Traditional	12.0%	10.3%

Definition: Percentage of public school students in grades 7, 9, 11, and non-traditional students reporting that they have been hit, slapped, or intentionally physically hurt by a boyfriend/girlfriend in the past year, by gender.

Data Source: California Department of Education, [California Healthy Kids Survey](#) and [California Student Survey](#) (WestEd).

Youth Who Have Experienced Dating Violence in the Past Year, by Race/Ethnicity: 2011-2013



Definition: Percentage of public school students in grades 7, 9, 11, and non-traditional students reporting that they have been hit, slapped, or intentionally physically hurt by a boyfriend/girlfriend in the past year, by race/ethnicity.

Data Source: California Department of Education, [California Healthy Kids Survey](#) and [California Student Survey](#) (WestEd).

Relationship violence occurs in an estimated 3 to 17 percent of all pregnancies in the United States (7). Experiencing intimate partner violence during the prenatal period is associated with poorer maternal and infant health. Specifically, women who experience relationship violence during pregnancy are less likely to access prenatal care, and more likely to have insufficient weight gain, miscarry, give birth prematurely, and have infants with low birth weight or injuries (7). Women who experience relationship violence during pregnancy also have elevated stress levels, increased rates of smoking, and are at an increased risk for substance use, which are associated with poor maternal and infant health and well-being (8).

How Children Are Faring

In 2014, a total of 155,965 domestic violence calls were made to law enforcement in California, which equates to 6 calls per 1,000 adults ages 18-69. This represents about a 35% decline from 1998, when there were 9.3 calls per 1,000 adults ages 18-69. The decline is evident at the county level, as well; rates declined in 38 of 55 counties with available data for that time period. Despite the decline, county rates of domestic violence calls for assistance continue to vary widely, ranging from 2.7 to 45.9 per 1,000 adults ages 18-69 in 2014.

In California, 4.1% of 7th graders, 5% of 9th graders, and 5.9% of 11th graders reported that they had been hit, slapped, or intentionally physically hurt by a girlfriend or boyfriend in the past 12 months, according to 2011-13 data. Non-traditional students (those enrolled in [Community Day Schools](#) or [Continuation Education](#)) had the highest percentages reporting relationship violence in the past year: 11.1% in 2011-13. Greater percentages of males in 7th, 9th, and 11th grades reported experiencing dating violence than their female peers in 2011-13. Among racial/ethnic groups, higher percentages of American Indian/Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, and African American/Black students reported relationship violence than students in other groups. In addition, students who reported feeling less connected to their schools more often reported dating violence.

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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