



Domestic Violence in ARKANSAS

WHAT IS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE?

Domestic violence is the willful intimidation, physical assault, battery, sexual assault, and/or other abusive behavior as part of a systematic pattern of power and control perpetrated by one intimate partner against another. It includes physical violence, sexual violence, threats, and emotional abuse. The frequency and severity of domestic violence can vary dramatically.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN ARKANSAS

- 37.3% of Arkansas women¹ and 35.6% of Arkansas men² experience intimate partner physical violence, intimate partner sexual violence and/or intimate partner in their lifetimes.
- 453 victims in Arkansas were served by domestic violence shelters and programs in one day.³
- An estimated 18.6% of Arkansas women will experience stalking in their lifetime.⁴
- As of December 31, 2015, Arkansas had submitted 2,460 misdemeanor domestic violence records and no permanent protective order records to the NICS Index.⁵

DID YOU KNOW?

- 1 in 3 women and 1 in 4 men have experienced some form of physical violence by an intimate partner.⁶
- On a typical day, domestic violence hotlines receive approximately 21,000 calls, approximately 15 calls every minute.⁷
- Intimate partner violence accounts for 15% of all violent crime.⁸
- Abusers' access to firearms increases the risk of intimate partner femicide at least five-fold. When firearms have been used in the most severe abuse incident, the risk increases 41-fold.⁹
- 72% of all murder-suicides involved an intimate partner; 94% of the victims of these crimes are female.¹⁰

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE-RELATED FIREARMS LAWS IN ARKANSAS

- Although respondents to domestic violence protective orders are not statutorily prohibited from owning firearms, Arkansas courts issuing both permanent and temporary protective orders are authorized to order whatever relief they deem necessary to protect victims/survivors, including dating partners.¹¹
- When a person is convicted of misdemeanor domestic violence, the judge must tell him/her that (s)he is prohibited under federal law from owning firearms. Judges must include a statement to this effect in all permanent protective orders.¹²
- Arkansas can strengthen the laws protecting victims/survivors from gun violence by:
 - Prohibiting domestic violence, dating violence and stalking misdemeanants from owning firearms;
 - Prohibiting respondents to temporary and permanent protective orders from owning firearms;
 - Requiring prohibited persons to surrender their firearms upon prohibition;
 - Requiring background checks for all firearm sales and transfers; and
 - Requiring law enforcement to remove firearms when responding to a domestic violence call.

If you are in crisis, contact The National Domestic Violence Hotline at **1-800-799-SAFE (7233)** or www.TheHotline.org.

Please visit the **National Coalition Against Domestic Violence's** website at www.ncadv.org for more fact sheets, membership information and valuable resources.



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¹ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (2014). *Lifetime prevalence of rape, physical violence, and/or stalking by an intimate partner by state of residence—U.S. women, NISVS 2010*. Retrieved from http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/nisvs/state_tables_74.html.

² Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (2014). *Lifetime prevalence of rape, physical violence, and/or stalking by an intimate partner by state of residence—U.S. men, NISVS 2010*. Retrieved from http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/nisvs/state_tables_75.html.

³ National Network to End Domestic Violence (2012). *'12 Domestic Violence Counts Arkansas Summary*. Retrieved from: http://nnedv.org/downloads/Census/DVCounts2012/DVCounts12_StateSummary_AR.pdf.

⁴ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (2012). *National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey*. Retrieved from: http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/nisvs/state_tables_73.html.

⁵ FBI Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) Division: National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) Section (2016). *Active records in the NICS Index as of December 31, 2015*. Retrieved from <https://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/nics/reports/active-records-in-the-nics-index-by-state>.

⁶ Black, M.C., Basile, K.C., Breiding, M.J., Smith, S.G., Walters, M.L., Merrick, M.T., Chen, J., & Stevens, M. (2011). *The national intimate partner and sexual violence survey: 2010 summary report*. Retrieved from http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/nisvs_report2010-a.pdf.

⁷ National Network to End Domestic Violence (2015). *2014 domestic violence counts: A 24-hour census of domestic violence shelters and services*. Retrieved from http://nnedv.org/downloads/Census/DVCounts2014/DVCounts14_NatlSummary_Color-2.pdf.

⁸ Truman, J. & Morgan, R. (2014). *Nonfatal domestic violence, 2003-2012*. Retrieved from <http://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/ndv0312.pdf>.

⁹ Campbell, J.C., Webster, D., Koziol-McLain, J., Block, C., Campbell, D., Curry, M. A., Gary, F., Glass, N., McFarlane, J., Sachs, C., Sharps, P., Ulrich, Y., Wilt, S., Manganello, J., Xu, X., Schollenberger, J., Frye, V., & Lauphon, K. (2003). Risk factors for femicide in abusive relationships: Results from a multisite case control study. *American Journal of Public Health, 93*(7), 1089-1097.

¹⁰ Violence Policy Center (2012). *American roulette: murder-suicide in the United States*. Retrieved from: www.vpc.org/studies/amroul2012.pdf.

¹¹ Ark. Code § 9-15-205(a)(8); Ark. Code § 9-15-206(b)(F).

¹² Ark. Code § 5-26-313.

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