

The limited research available on the topic indicates that LGBTQ identified individuals experience domestic violence at rates equal to or higher than those of non-LGBTQ people.

According to the CDC, 44% of lesbian women, 61% of bisexual women, and 35% of heterosexual women experience rape, physical violence, and/or stalking by an intimate partner in their lifetime.

CDC data also show that 26% of gay men, 37% of bisexual men, and 29% of heterosexual men experience rape, physical violence, and/or stalking by an intimate partner at some point in their lifetime.

In 2011, NCAVP documented 19 domestic violence homicides of LGBTQ and HIV-affected people, the highest yearly total ever recorded by NCAVP and more than three times the 6 documented homicides in 2010.

We also know that other forms of abuse suffered by LGBTQ survivors include:

LGBTQ individuals often face additional challenges and barriers in reporting domestic violence and seeking intervention services, including unintended outing, discrimination by reporting agencies, additional harassment, and lack of culturally responsive services.

According to data collected by NCAVP from anti-violence programs in 22 U.S. states:

- More survivors in 2011 (61.6%) reported being denied access to shelter than in 2010 (44.6%). This continues a two-year trend of increases in shelter access denials.
- Police arrested survivors or both individuals in 28.4% of incidents involving the police, a slight increase from 2012 (21.9%).
- For LGBTQ survivors, medical providers may not have the training and knowledge to recognize domestic violence.

Examples of policies and practices in our program to increase access to services for LGBTQ survivors include:

How prevalent is domestic violence within LGBTQ communities?

Everyone who experiences domestic violence deserves a safe space for reporting and receiving needed services and prevention efforts must be inclusive of everyone.

The CDC notes that opportunities for prevention and intervention that address the specific needs of lesbian, gay, and bisexual survivors include:

- Implementing prevention approaches that promote acceptance and recognition of healthy, respectful relationships regardless of sexual orientation.
- Including lesbian, gay, and bisexual persons in national, state, and local violence research.
- Referring victims and survivors to culturally appropriate accessible services.

Our program provides the following services for LGBTQ survivors:

Survivor story or anecdote to illustrate your point:

Program Information:

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____



How prevalent is domestic violence in LGBT communities?

References and Citations

Domestic violence is an alarming and pervasive problem in our country.

- The limited research available on the topic indicates that LGBTQ identified individuals experience domestic violence at rates equal to or higher than those of non-LGBTQ people.

Source: Walters, M.L., Chen J., & Breiding, M.J. (2013). *The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (NISVS): 2010 Findings on Victimization by Sexual Orientation*. Atlanta, GA: National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

- Twenty-six percent of gay men, 37% of bisexual men, and 29% of heterosexual men experience rape, physical violence, and/or stalking by an intimate partner at some point in their lifetime.

Source: Walters, M.L., Chen J., & Breiding, M.J. (2013). *The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (NISVS): 2010 Findings on Victimization by Sexual Orientation*. Atlanta, GA: National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

- In 2011, NCAVP documented 19 domestic violence homicides of LGBTQ and HIV-affected people, the highest yearly total ever recorded by NCAVP and more than three times the 6 documented homicides in 2010.

Source: National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs (NCAVP). (2012). *2011 Report on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, And HIV-Affected Intimate Partner Violence*. New York, NY.

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 - For LGBTQ survivors, medical providers may not have the training and knowledge to recognize domestic violence.

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Everyone who experiences domestic violence deserves a safe space for reporting and receiving needed services and prevention efforts must be inclusive of everyone.

- Opportunities for prevention and intervention that address the specific needs of lesbian, gay, and bisexual survivors include:
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Additional information

- Leading organizations in the US focusing specifically on the issue of domestic violence against LGBTQ communities (abbreviated listing):

FORGE

National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs (NCAVP)

The Network/La Red

The Northwest Network