

Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) in Oregon

What is IPV?

- IPV refers to behaviors that one partner uses to control another. These may include physical violence, sexual violence, threats, emotional abuse, and/or economic control.
- Intimate partners include current and former spouses, boyfriends, girlfriends and dates.
- A woman's risk of serious injury or death is 4 to 14 times higher than a man's risk^{1,2}.

How big is the problem in Oregon?

- 1 in 10 Oregon women age 20-55 said that their current or most recent intimate partner had physically or sexually assaulted them in the preceding 5 years (over 85,000 women).³
- Almost 30,000 Oregon women age 20-55 (3%) experienced physical and/or sexual assaults by their current or most recent intimate partners in the past year.³

<i>Table 3 Numbers and rates of physical assaults and sexual assaults perpetrated by intimate partners (N=2,962)</i>				
Type of violence	Number of Victims	Average number of violent incidents per victim (past 5 years)	Total number of violent incidents (past 5 years)	Annualized rate of victimization per 1,000 women*
Physical assault	78,289	8	626,869	143.0
Sexual assault	24,640	12	300,479	68.5

*Annualized rate derived from 5-year incidence reports.
Source: Oregon Women's Health & Safety Survey, 2001-2002

What are the consequences of IPV in Oregon?

- IPV is associated with short-term health problems, such as injuries, and long-term problems, like chronic illnesses and mental health conditions³.
- Each year, about 18 people are killed by intimate partners in Oregon². About 1 in 3 perpetrators commit suicide and many kill family members or friends during the incident.
- 1 in 3 women said that a child witnessed a physical assault and 1 in 5 witnessed a sexual assault that occurred in the previous 5 years.³ These children can develop physical, behavioral, and emotional problems.

Cost of IPV against women in the United States

- The health-related costs of IPV against women in the U.S. exceed \$5.8 billion/year⁴.
- Of this total, nearly \$4.1 billion/year are for direct medical and mental health care services. Job productivity losses account for nearly \$1.8 billion/year⁴.

¹ Tjaden P. Thoennes N. Extent, nature, and consequences of intimate partner violence. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Justice, 2000; DOJ publication no NCJ 181867.

² Intimate Partner Homicide in Oregon, 1997-2001. <http://www.dhs.state.or.us/publichealth/ipv/index.cfm>.

³ Oregon Women's Health and Safety Survey, 2001-2002. <http://www.dhs.state.or.us/publichealth/ipv/index.cfm>.

⁴ Costs of Intimate Partner Violence Against Women in the United States. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: 2003.