



# DOMESTIC VIOLENCE FACTS: COLORADO



## DID YOU KNOW?

- ◇ **One in every four women** will experience domestic violence in her lifetime.<sup>1</sup> **One in 33 men** have experienced an attempted or completed rape.<sup>2</sup>
- ◇ An estimated **1.3 million women** are victims of physical assault by an intimate partner each year.<sup>3</sup>
- ◇ The majority (73%) of family violence victims are female. Females were 84% of spousal abuse victims and 86% of abuse victims at the hands of a boyfriend.<sup>4</sup>
- ◇ The cost of intimate partner violence **exceeds \$5.8 billion each year**, \$4.1 billion of which is for direct medical and mental health services.<sup>5</sup>
- ◇ Boys who witness domestic violence are **twice as likely** to abuse their own partners and children when they become adults.<sup>6</sup>

## CHALLENGES

- Victims of domestic violence in the rural areas of Colorado often experience isolation and lack access to domestic violence services, due to poor weather and road conditions, for example.<sup>7</sup>
- The lack of affordable housing in Colorado makes it difficult for victims to transition from shelters to permanent residences. While the number of victims seeking emergency shelter services declined from 2005 to 2006, the number of victims requesting shelter for an extended period of time has increased.<sup>7</sup>

## STATEMENTS FROM SERVICE PROVIDERS

*"In 2006, 5,886 individuals were turned away from shelters in Colorado due to a lack of capacity, a 6% increase compared to 2005 and a 22% increase compared to 2004."*

- Colorado Department of Human Services,  
Domestic Abuse Assistance Program<sup>7</sup>

*"In 2006, there were 75,703 criminal cases filed in Colorado county courts. Of those, 14,123 were classified as domestic violence. However, only 2,644 cases of domestic abuse protection order violations were filed."*

-Colorado Court Administrators Office<sup>8</sup>

## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT IN COLORADO

- There were 14,123 domestic violence criminal cases filed in the Colorado county courts in 2006.<sup>8</sup>
- Almost half of all murders in Colorado are committed by an intimate partner. The vast majority of these victims are female.<sup>8</sup>
- 41 people in Colorado died as a result of domestic violence in 2006. Two of the victims were children.<sup>8</sup>
- There were 7 incidents of murder/suicide in 2006, resulting in the deaths of 15 people.<sup>8</sup>
- 2,076 forcible rapes were reported in Colorado in 2006.<sup>9</sup>
- 19 children were killed as a result of family violence from 2000 to 2006.<sup>8</sup>

## STATE RESOURCES

### The Colorado Coalition Against Domestic Violence<sup>10</sup> [www.ccadv.org](http://www.ccadv.org)

- ◇ The Colorado Coalition Against Domestic Violence (CCADV) serves as a forum for social action and development of services for victims of domestic violence through community education, networking and the empowerment of survivors. CCADV's network of rural and urban advocates work together through the coalition, which aims to provide a statewide environment that nurtures local and community-based efforts to end domestic violence.

### The Colorado Coalition Against Sexual Assault<sup>11</sup> [www.ccasa.org](http://www.ccasa.org)

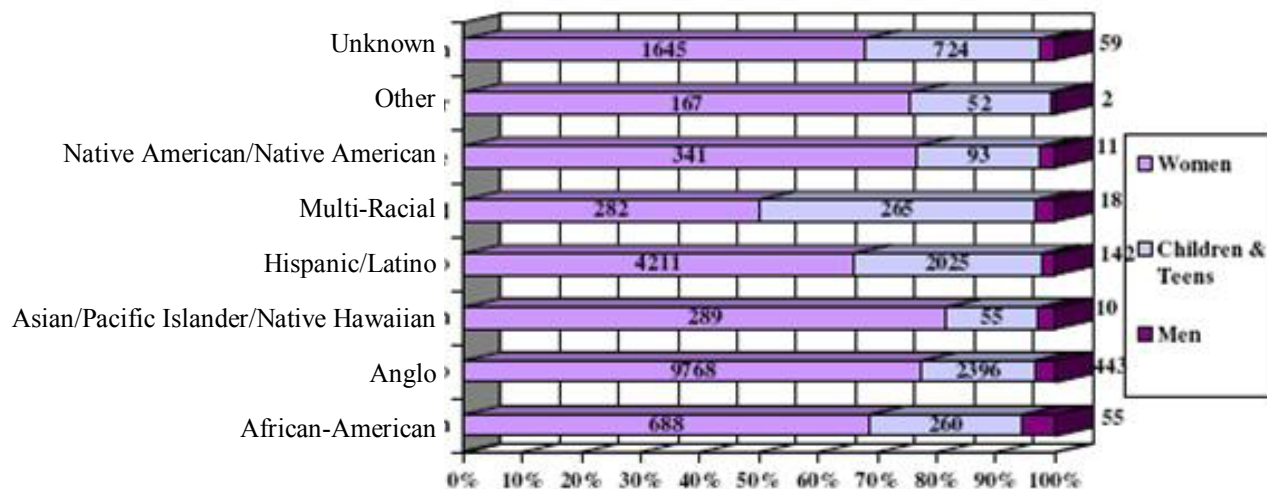
- ◇ Founded in 1984, The Colorado Coalition Against Sexual Assault (CCASA) works to end sexual violence in Colorado through education, prevention work, policy advocacy and victims' services.

For more information or to get help, please visit  
<http://www.ccadv.org/numbers.htm>  
to locate local crisis hotline numbers in Colorado

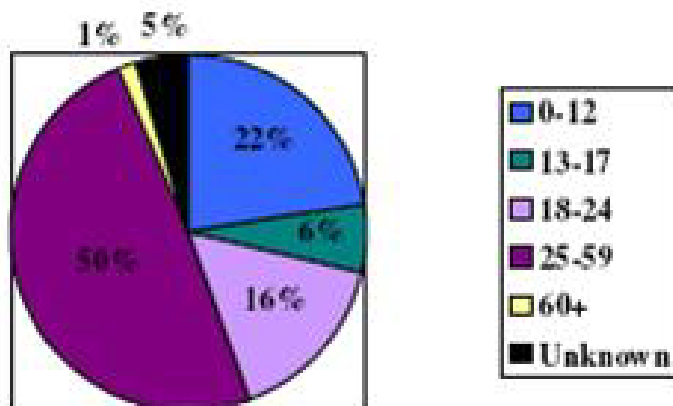
The National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-799-SAFE  
The National Sexual Assault Hotline at 1-800-656-HOPE

# DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN COLORADO<sup>7</sup>

## Victim Race/Ethnicity



## Victim's Age



## SOURCES

- <sup>1</sup>Tjaden, Patricia & Thoennes, Nancy. National Institute of Justice and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "Extent, Nature and Consequences of Intimate Partner Violence: Findings from the National Violence Against Women Survey," (2000).
- <sup>2</sup>U.S. Department of Justice, "Prevalence, Incidence, and Consequences of Violence Against Women," November 1998.
- <sup>3</sup>Costs of Intimate Partner Violence Against Women in the United States. 2003. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Centers for Injury Prevention and Control. Atlanta, GA.
- <sup>4</sup>U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, "Family Violence Statistics," June 2005.
- <sup>5</sup>Costs of Intimate Partner Violence Against Women in the United States. 2003. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Centers for Injury Prevention and Control. Atlanta, GA.
- <sup>6</sup>Strauss, Gelles, and Smith, "Physical Violence in American Families: Risk Factors and Adaptations to Violence" in *8,145 Families*. Transaction Publishers (1990).
- <sup>7</sup>Colorado Department of Human Services, Domestic Abuse Assistance Program, "2006 Report." Retrieved on October 19, 2007, from [www.domesticabusefund.org](http://www.domesticabusefund.org).
- <sup>8</sup>Colorado Coalition Against Domestic Violence, "Fact Sheet: Domestic Violence." Retrieved on October 19, 2007, from [www.ccadv.org/facts.htm](http://www.ccadv.org/facts.htm).
- <sup>9</sup>Colorado Crime Rates 1960-2006. Retrieved on July 8, 2008, from <http://www.disastercenter.com/crime/cocrime.htm>.
- <sup>10</sup>Colorado Coalition Against Domestic Violence. General Information: Our Mission. Retrieved on October 19, 2007, from <http://ccadv.org/mission.htm>.
- <sup>11</sup>Colorado Coalition Against Sexual Assault. Mission Statement. Retrieved on October 19, 2007, from [www.ccasa.org](http://www.ccasa.org).



The Public Policy Office of the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NCADV) is a national leader in the effort to create and influence Federal legislation that positively affects the lives of domestic violence victims and children. We work closely with advocates at the local, state and national level to identify the issues facing domestic violence victims, their children and the people who serve them and to develop a legislative agenda to address these issues. NCADV welcomes you to join us in our effort to end domestic violence.