

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE FACTS: MAINE



DID YOU KNOW?

- ◇ **One in every four women** will experience domestic violence in her lifetime.¹ **One in 33 men** have experienced an attempted or completed rape.²
- ◇ An estimated **1.3 million women** are victims of physical assault by an intimate partner each year.³
- ◇ 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.⁴
- ◇ 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.⁵
- ◇ Boys who witness domestic violence are **twice as likely** to abuse their own partners and children when they become adults.⁶

CHALLENGES

- 13% of Maine's court system's civil docket each year is comprised of Protection from Abuse orders, but limitations in Maine's court system, such as inconsistent safety measures, too few personnel, and limited access to legal representation negatively impact victims of domestic abuse.⁷
- Maine's rural communities are a constant challenge for domestic violence advocates to provide services to. Maine has many islands which are difficult to reach as well.⁸

STATEMENTS FROM SERVICE PROVIDERS

"Due to lack of funding from the federal government and municipalities, we were unable to add a new position to our staff that we had anticipated adding this year."

- Advocate, The Abused Women's Advocacy Project

"We are severely challenged by the fact that we do not have any federal or state funding to help us with our capacity building efforts. For instance, our emergency sheltering capabilities are limited to brief hotel stays and space for up to four people housed by volunteer advocates."

-Executive Director, Domestic Abuse Helpline for Men and Women

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT IN MAINE

- Every 96 minutes a domestic assault is reported to police in Maine.⁹
- In 2006, there were 5,459 domestic assaults in Maine.¹⁰
 - ◇ 58% of domestic assaults were male on female assaults.
 - ◇ 2.5% of the domestic assaults involved a firearm, knife or other dangerous weapon.
- Seven of the 22 homicides in Maine in 2006 were the result of intimate partner violence.¹¹
- 326 forcible rapes were reported in 2006 (an increase in 4.8% from the previous year).¹⁰
- On one day in Maine, the MCEDV's nine member projects:⁹
 - ◇ Received a hotline call every 10 minutes.
 - ◇ Provided emergency shelter or transitional housing to 213 domestic violence victims.
 - ◇ Offered non-residential advocacy and services to 308 adults and children.
 - ◇ Trained 255 domestic violence advocates.

STATE RESOURCES

The Maine Coalition to End Domestic Violence
www.mcedv.org

- ◇ MCEDV works to create and encourage a social and political environment in which domestic violence no longer exists. MCEDV's nine member projects provide the following services: a 24-hour hotline, temporary emergency shelters and transitional housing, referrals and information, court advocacy, support groups, batterer's education groups, outreach and community education, school based education, specialized children's programming, and public policy advocacy.

The Maine Coalition Against Sexual Assault
www.mecasa.org

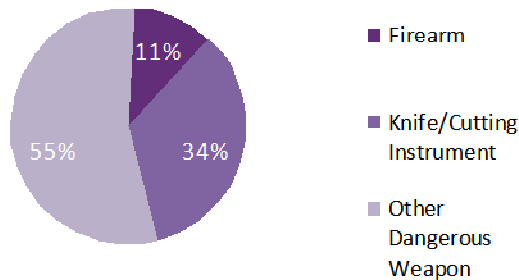
- ◇ The Coalition is organized to put an end to sexual violence in Maine, their efforts include a range of activities from initiating and advocating victim-centered public policy to assisting Maine's ten sexual assault centers and providing expert training, statistics, and resources about sexual violence to organizations, groups, and individuals throughout the state.

For more information or to get help, please contact the
 Maine Statewide Domestic Violence Helpline at
1-800-83-4HELP (1-800-834-4359)

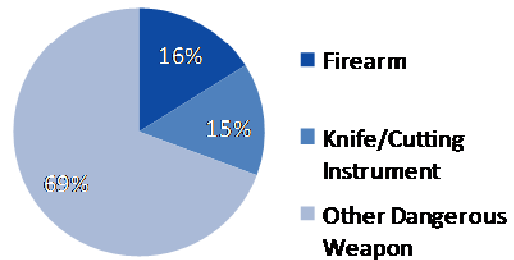
The National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-799-SAFE
 The National Sexual Assault Hotline at 1-800-656-HOPE

Domestic Violence Assaults in Maine, 2005 and 2006¹⁰

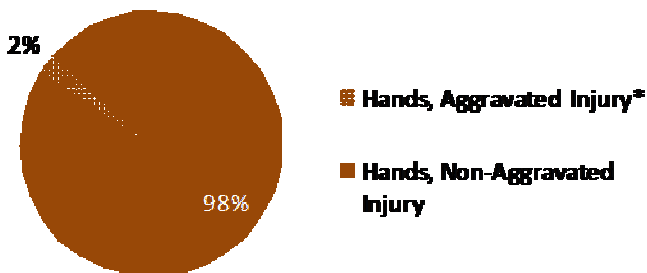
Non-Personal Weapon Domestic Violence Assaults, 2005



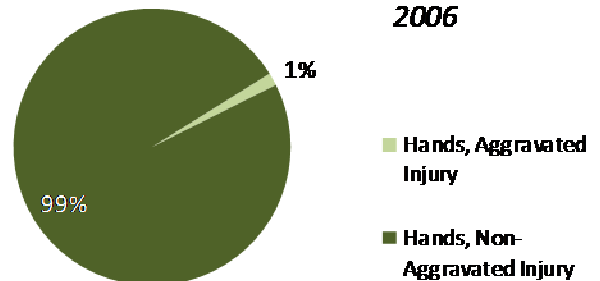
Non-Personal Weapon Assaults, 2006



Personal Weapon Domestic Violence Assault, 2005



Personal Weapon Domestic Violence Assault, 2006



SOURCES

- ¹ Tjaden, P. & Thoennes, N. (2000). *Extent, Nature and Consequences of Intimate Partner Violence: Findings from the National Violence Against Women Survey*. National Institute of Justice and the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention.
- ² National Institute of Justice and the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention
- ³ U.S. Department of Justice. (November 1998). *Prevalence, Incidence, and Consequences of Violence Against Women*.
- ⁴ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2003). *Costs of Intimate Partner Violence Against Women in the United States*. Atlanta, GA: National Centers for Injury Prevention and Control.
- ⁵ Bureau of Justice Statistics. (June, 2005). *Family Violence Statistics*. U.S. Department of Justice.
- ⁶ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2003). *Costs of Intimate Partner Violence Against Women in the United States*. Atlanta, GA: National Centers for Injury Prevention and Control.
- ⁷ Strauss, Gelles, & Smith. (1990). *Physical Violence in American Families: Risk Factors and Adaptations to Violence in 8,145 Families*. Transaction Publishers.
- ⁸ Chocensky, D., ed. (2005). *Domestic Abuse in Maine: Data Project III 2000-2004*. Bangor, ME: Maine Coalition to End Domestic Violence.
- ⁹ Maine Coalition to End Domestic Violence. (2005). *Statewide Prevention Plan, April 2005*. Retrieved October 15, 2007, from <http://www.mcedv.org/news/documents/MCEDVstatewidepreventionplan.pdf>
- ¹⁰ Maine Coalition to End Domestic Violence. (2007). *Statistics and Facts*. Retrieved October 15, 2007 from <http://www.mcedv.org/news/statistics.htm>
- ¹¹ Department of Public Safety's Uniform Crime Reporting Division. (2007). *Crime in Maine 2006 Annual Report*. Augusta, ME: Maine Police Department.
- ¹² Public Information Office. (2007) *Maine's 22 Homicides in 2006*. Augusta, ME: Maine Department of Public Safety.



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.