

What Is Stalking?

Stalking is a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to feel fear.

Victimization

- 6.6 million people over the age of 18 are stalked each year in the United States.ⁱ
- Persons aged 18-24 years experience the highest rate of stalking.ⁱⁱ
- 3 in 4 stalking victims are stalked by someone they know.ⁱⁱⁱ
- 30% of stalking victims are stalked by a current or former intimate partner.^{iv} Intimate partner stalkers frequently approach their targets, and their behaviors escalate quickly.
- 46% of stalking victims experience at least one unwanted contact per week.^v
- 46% of stalking victims fear not knowing what will happen next.^{vi}
- 1 in 8 employed stalking victims lose time from work as a result of their victimization and more than half lose 5 days of work or more.^{vii}
- 1 in 4 victims report being stalked through the use of some form of technology (such as e-mail or instant messaging).^{viii}

Stalkers

- 2/3 of stalkers pursue their victims at least once per week. Many stalkers pursue their victim daily and use more than one method.^{ix}
- Almost 1/3 of stalkers have stalked before.^x

Lethality

- 76% of intimate partner femicide victims have been stalked by their intimate partner.
- 89% of femicide victims who had been physically assaulted had also been stalked in the 12 months before their murder.^{xi}

ⁱ Black, M.C., Basile, K.C., Breiding, M.J., Smith, S.G., Walters, M.L., Merrick, M.T., Chen, J., & Stevens, M.R. (2011). The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (NISVS): 2010 Summary Report. Atlanta, GA: National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

ⁱⁱ Baum, Katrina et al., "Stalking Victimization in the United States." (2009) Bureau of Justice Statistics, Washington D.C.

ⁱⁱⁱ Ibid

^{iv} Ibid

^v Mohandie, Kris et al., "The RECON Typology of Stalking: Reliability and Validity Based upon a Large Sample of North American Stalkers," (2006) Journal of Forensic Sciences, 51, no.1.

^{vi} Ibid

^{vii} Ibid

^{viii} Ibid

^{ix} Mohandie, Kris et al., "The RECON Typology of Stalking: Reliability and Validity Based upon a Large Sample of North American Stalkers," (2006) Journal of Forensic Sciences, 51, no.1.

^x Ibid

^{xi} McFarlane, Judith et al., "Stalking and Intimate Partner Femicide,"(1999) Homicide Studies 3, no.4