

Idaho Domestic Violence Fact Sheet

What Is Domestic Violence

Domestic violence is a pattern of abusive behavior in any intimate relationship that is used by one partner to gain or maintain power and control over the other partner. Domestic violence can involve physical, sexual, emotional, economic, or psychological actions or threats of actions. Several types of abusive behaviors may occur together and can continue even after one partner has ended the relationship. Domestic violence disproportionately affects women, girls and individuals who are gender non-conforming. Domestic violence, like all forms of gender-based violence, is connected to the ways our systems devalue human beings based on identities, compounding the impact of domestic violence and creating additional harm against Black, Indigenous, Latinx, and other survivors of color, LGBTQ survivors, and survivors with disabilities or who are Deaf or hard of hearing.

Domestic Violence in Idaho

- Each day in Idaho approximately 670 survivors of domestic violence and their children seek safety and services from community and tribal domestic violence programs, a 17.5% increase during the pandemic.¹
- In 2020 there were 10 domestic violence related fatalities in Idaho. As of September 15, 2021, there have been 7 intimate partner related fatalities in Idaho.
- In 2020, law enforcement agencies in Idaho received reports of 5,850 incidents of violence between spouses, ex-spouses, common-law spouses, and those in dating relationships.² It is important to know that many survivors of domestic violence do not report to law enforcement for a wide range of reasons.
- Boise State University researchers, in a study funded by the Idaho Council on Domestic Violence and Victim Assistance, recommend that Idaho's response to domestic violence can be improved by investing in community-based victim services, creating a phone or electronic process for the issuance of emergency civil protection orders, creating practices that directly connect survivors of domestic violence to local victim services, among other solutions.³

Idaho Risk Assessment of Dangerousness

While there is no way to predict an abusive partner's behavior, the following factors are warning signs of increased dangerousness in the relationship, with lethality factors in red:

1. History of Domestic Violence – **current stalking behaviors, partner forced to have sexual contact, attempted strangulation, and acts of violence while victim pregnant**
2. Prior police contact of offender
3. Threats to Kill Victim or Children by offender
4. Threats of Suicide by offender
5. Separation – **recent separation**
6. Coercive/Controlling Behavior – **extreme possessiveness**
7. Alcohol or Drug Abuse

Idaho Resources on Domestic Violence

Healing from Domestic Violence booklets for survivors are available in English, Spanish, Arabic and Swahili. Copies available at no cost on the Idaho Coalition website www.engagingvoices.org.



National Domestic Violence Hotline: 1 (800) 799-7233 / 1(800) 787-3224 (TTY)
Idaho Coalition Against Sexual & Domestic Violence www.engagingvoices.org



¹ National Network to End Domestic Violence. (2021). 15th Annual Domestic violence counts report – Idaho summary. Retrieved from https://nnedv.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/Library_Census_2020_ID-1.pdf.

² Idaho State Police (2021). Crime in Idaho 2020 Crimes against persons. Retrieved from <https://nibrs.isp.idaho.gov/CrimeInIdaho/Publication/Active/Sections/3.0/20Crimes%20Against%20Persons.pdf>

³ Bostaph, Jeffries, King, and Gillespie (2020). 2020 Biennial report on victimization & victim services in Idaho, Volume 1, Issue 1.