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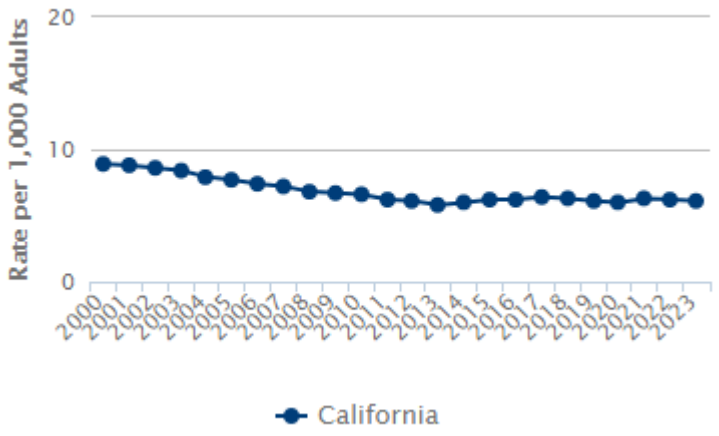
Intimate Partner Violence in California

Rate of Domestic Violence-Related Calls to Law Enforcement per 1,000 Adults Ages 18-69: 2023

Locations	Rate per 1,000 Adults
California	6.1
Alameda County	4.0
Contra Costa County	4.3
Fresno County	20.8
Kern County	8.3
Los Angeles County	5.6
Orange County	4.2
Riverside County	4.9
Sacramento County	8.9
San Bernardino County	4.5
San Diego County	7.5
Santa Clara County	4.9

Definition: Number of domestic violence-related calls for assistance per 1,000 adults ages 18-69 (e.g., in 2023, there were 6.1 domestic violence calls for assistance per 1,000 California adults).
Data Source: California Dept. of Justice Criminal Justice Statistics Center, Domestic Violence-Related Calls for Assistance; California Dept. of Finance, Population Estimates and Projections (Jan. 2025).

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Number of Domestic Violence Calls: 2023

What It Is

Kidsdata.org provides the number of domestic violence-related calls to law enforcement by county and city, along with county-level rates of domestic violence calls per 1,000 residents ages 18-69. Domestic violence—as defined in California Penal Code 13700—involves acts, attempts, or threats of bodily injury between adults or minors currently or formerly in a relationship of marriage, engagement, cohabitation, or dating, or who together have had a child.

Why This Topic Is Important

Intimate partner violence (IPV) is a preventable public health problem affecting millions in the U.S. Nationwide, it is estimated that around 1 in 4 women and 1 in 10 men have been impacted by IPV in the form of stalking, sexual violence, or physical violence. Psychological aggression by intimate partners also is widespread, with 38 million men and 43 million women having experienced IPV in this form at some point in their lives. Victims of IPV can suffer psychological trauma, physical injury, and even death. Among U.S. female homicide victims, more than half are killed by current or past male intimate partners. Survivors face increased risk for a range of long-term adverse emotional, social, and health outcomes, and the effects extend beyond the direct victim. Nearly 1 in 5 U.S. children have been exposed to IPV in their lifetimes, and an estimated 15.5 million live in households in which physical IPV occurred in the previous year. These children—even if they are not the targets of violence—are at increased risk for physical, social, behavioral, and developmental problems. Child witnesses of IPV also are at higher risk of becoming abusers or victims later in life.

Social and economic crises exacerbate IPV. Increases in IPV have been documented in the period after the COVID-19 outbreak, as many families faced increased financial stress, unemployment, social isolation, anxiety, and other challenges. IPV also exacts a substantial economic toll in medical care, lost productivity, criminal justice activities, and other costs. These have been estimated at $8.3 billion annually and $3.6 trillion over the lifetimes of those impacted.

While IPV occurs across all demographic groups, some are disproportionately affected, including young people, LGBTQ populations, pregnant women, and American Indian/Alaska Native and African American/black women. For many victims, IPV begins early in life. Among

Locations	Number
California	160,357
Anaheim (City)	1,611
Bakersfield (City)	2,486
Fresno (City)	8,953
Long Beach (City)	2,498
Los Angeles (City)	17,535
Oakland (City)	2,323
Sacramento (City)	4,971
San Diego (City)	6,661
San Francisco (City)	3,219
San Jose (City)	4,502

Definition: Number of domestic violence-related calls for assistance (e.g., in 2023, there were 160,357 domestic violence calls for assistance in California).
Data Source: California Dept. of Justice Criminal Justice Statistics Center, Domestic Violence-Related Calls for Assistance; California Dept. of Finance, Population Estimates and Projections (Jan. 2025).

U.S. survivors of stalking, sexual violence, and physical violence, an estimated 11 million women and 5 million men experienced some form of IPV before age 18. Further, a national survey of dating youth ages 12-18 indicates that more than two-thirds (69%) have experienced physical, psychological, or sexual relationship abuse.

How Children Are Faring

In 2023, a total of 160,357 domestic violence-related calls were made to law enforcement in California—a rate of 6.1 calls per 1,000 adults ages 18-69, down more than a third compared with 1998 (9.3 calls per 1,000 adults). After falling steadily between 2000 (8.9 calls per 1,000) and 2013 (5.8 per 1,000), rates leveled off in the following decade, ranging between 6.0 and 6.4 calls per 1,000 adults statewide.

At the county level, rates of domestic violence calls for assistance have fallen since 1998 in 43 of 55 counties with available data. Despite these declines, county-level data continue to vary widely, from fewer than 3.5 calls per 1,000 adults to more than 20 per 1,000 in 2023.

View references for this text and additional research on this topic:
https://kidsdata.org/topic/3/intimate-partner-violence/summary