

Facts & Statistics on Domestic Violence

The statistics regarding domestic violence are staggering:

- According to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, in 2001, over 1,300 murders were committed by a spouse or intimate partners. These numbers equate to nearly **four murders a day**
- More women are injured by their partners than by rape, auto accidents and muggings combined!
- The U.S. Department of Justice estimates that intimate partners -- husbands, ex-husbands, and current and former boyfriends -- commit violent crimes against approximately 937,000 women every year.ⁱ
- Over 25% of women have been victims of violence perpetrated by an intimate partner in their lifetime.ⁱⁱ
- According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, homicide is the leading cause of death for women on the job, and 20% of those murders were at the hands of their partners

The following statistics have a direct impact on all American companies:

COST:

- It is estimated domestic violence costs employers **\$3 to \$5 billion** a year in lost days of work and reduced productivity.ⁱⁱⁱ
- The aggregate annual cost to victims of domestic violence is about \$8.8 billion, or \$67 billion when pain, suffering, and lost quality of life are included.^{iv}

IMPAIRED JOB PERFORMANCE:

- As many as 50% of domestic violence victims have lost a job due, at least in part, to the domestic violence.^v
- 96% of employed domestic violence victims experience problems at work due to their abuse or abuser.^{vi}

ABSENTEEISM:

- One study found that 74% of employed battered women reported being harassed while at work by their abusive partners in person or by telephone.^{vii}
- Studies of battered women have found that 50 to 85% of abused women missed work because of abuse; over 60% reported arriving late due to abuse.^{vi}

i. See Callie Marie Rennison & Sarah Welchans, U.S. Dep't of Justice, *Intimate Partner Violence* 2, 8 (May 2000) (finding that, between 1993 and 1998, an average of 937,490 women annually were victims of intimate partner violence; and reporting 1320 murders of women by intimate partners in 1998); see also