

Data Literacy 101

Understanding IPV Facts and Figures

Data is “factual information used as a basis for reasoning, discussion, or calculation” (Merriam-Webster).

It can be primary or secondary, and quantitative or qualitative.

WHY IS DATA IMPORTANT?

- 1** Helps us better understand the work that we are doing.
- 2** Helps us better understand and serve the groups that we are working with.
- 3** Helps us better understand the impact of our work.
- 4** Helps us make decisions and prioritize.

COMMON TYPES

Primary Original data that you collect yourself.

Secondary Existing data that has already been collected but you analyze.

Quantitative Numerical — may be surveys, administrative data, or web analytics.

Qualitative Non-numerical — usually collected through focus groups or interviews.

WHAT TO LOOK FOR WHEN REVIEWING DATA

WHO Population of the data

Example: women over age 18 in the United States

WHERE Source of the data

Example: a report from the CDC

WHAT Indicator of the data

Example: occurrence of sexual violence by an intimate partner in victim's lifetime

WHY Purpose of the data

Example: to better understand demographics of victims served by a program

WHEN Timeframe of the data

Example: past year

HOW Collection of the data

Example: an annual survey

The 5W + 1H help us understand the data and assess its credibility.

**All data have limitations.
Acknowledge them when reporting.*

Variation in IPV-Related Data

There may be variation among similar-seeming data depending on the 5W + 1H. In the example below, the data differ on the **WHAT** and **WHERE** and are the same on the **WHO**, **WHEN**, **WHY**, and **HOW**.

SOURCE 1

The National Domestic Violence Hotline

"Nearly 3 in 10 women (29%) in the US have experienced rape, physical violence, and/or stalking by a partner and reported it having a related impact on their functioning."

WHAT Lifetime prevalence of rape, physical violence, and/or stalking victimization by an intimate partner with IPV-related impact.

WHERE NISVS 2010 Summary Report

SOURCE 2

NNEDV DV & SV Fact Sheet

"More than 1 in 4 women have experienced rape, physical violence, and/or stalking by an intimate partner in their lifetime."

WHAT Lifetime prevalence of contact sexual violence, physical violence, and/or stalking victimization by an intimate partner.

WHERE NISVS 2015 Data Brief

SAME

WHO: Women in the United States **WHEN:** Lifetime

WHY: Prevalence of IPV **HOW:** Ongoing, nationally representative telephone survey

IPV-RELATED DATA RESOURCES

- The National Domestic Violence Hotline — DV Statistics
- National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV) — DV and SV Fact Sheet
- NNEDV Annual Census — a 24-hour unduplicated count of adults and children seeking services from DV shelter programs
- National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) — key findings on domestic violence
- CDC National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (NISVS) — national and state-level IPV, SV, and stalking data
- CDC Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) — health behaviors and experiences of high school students, including violence
- CDC — uniform definitions and recommended data elements for measuring IPV
- Newcomb Institute at Tulane University — VEX: Violence EXperiences Research reports
- Tennessee Department of Health — domestic violence reports