data points

Domestic violence is a widespread problem

About 24 people per minute are victims of violence by an intimate partner, and the increased economic stress and isolation brought on by the pandemic threatens to exacerbate an already challenging problem. One study estimated the pandemic caused a 7.5% increase in calls to police for domestic violence from March through May.

35.6%

Percentage of U.S. women who experienced rape, physical violence and/or stalking by an intimate partner. For men, the percentage is 28.5%

14.8%

Percentage of U.S. women who have been injured as a result of intimate partner violence. About 4% of U.S. men have been injured in such incidents

18 to 34

Age of women who experience the highest rates of intimate partner violence

55.3%

Percentage of homicides of females age 18 and over, for which circumstances were known, that were related to intimate partner violence

The problem extends to teens and children

30% to 60%

Percentage of intimate violence perpetrators who also abuse children in the home

2 times

Likelihood that victims of digital abuse and harassment will be physically and/or psychologically abused

10%

Percentage of teens in relationships who report having a partner tamper with their social media account

New forms of outreach hold promise

With a grant from HHS, the National Child Abuse Hotline expanded and studied its text and online chat platforms. During the six months it studied …

67 online chat sessions

878 texting sessions

Of those who responded to a survey …

100%

of respondents using the online chat option said they received a lot or some of the information they needed. 73% of those using texting reported this

85%

Percentage of respondents using the online chat option who said they would not have contacted the hotline for help if chat was not available. And 48% of those using texting said they would not have called if texting wasn't available

MELANIE-WASSER/ UNSPLASH

Sources: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, July 2017 Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report; National Domestic Violence Hotline; Childhelp National Child Abuse Hotline; "Sheltering in place and domestic violence: Evidence from calls for service during COVID-19," National Institutes of Health, Elsevier Public Health Emergency Collection, July 2020