



Domestic Violence in Georgia

Year	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Number of DV Fatalities¹	137	110	127	106	118	111	123	130

Georgia's Domestic Violence Statistics

- ◆ From 2003 through 2010, at least **962 Georgia citizens lost their lives** due to domestic violence.¹
- ◆ Georgia was recently ranked **10th** in the nation for its rate of **men killing women**.²
- ◆ In **43%** of the cases studied through Georgia's Domestic Violence Fatality Review Project, **children were present during the domestic violence killing**.⁵
- ◆ **Firearms** were the cause of death in **76% of the domestic violence fatalities** in both 2009 and 2010.¹

71,212

In 2010, the number of crisis calls to Georgia's certified domestic violence agencies.³

62,156

In 2009, the number of domestic violence incidents that law enforcement officers responded to in Georgia.⁴

23,013

In 2010, the number of protective and stalking orders issued in Georgia.⁶

7,544

In 2010, the number of victims and children who were provided refuge in a Georgia domestic violence shelter.³

2,636

In 2010, the number of victims who were turned away from a Georgia domestic violence shelter due to lack of space.³

What is domestic violence?⁶

Domestic violence, also described by the terms family violence, intimate partner violence, and teen dating violence, is a widespread problem in Georgia and across the country.

We define domestic violence as the systematic use of abusive tactics to compel submission of one person to another in an intimate relationship. These tactics span a broad, and ever changing, spectrum. Common abusive tactics include:

- ◆ physical violence,
- ◆ sexual violence,
- ◆ isolation,
- ◆ economic injustice,
- ◆ emotional sabotage,
- ◆ intimidation,
- ◆ reproductive coercion,
- ◆ relationship attenuation, and,
- ◆ stalking.

Studies have shown that domestic violence is committed primarily by men against women; although women and men in same-sex relationships experience domestic violence at the same rates as heterosexual women.

1. Georgia Commission on Family Violence, Georgia Coalition Against Domestic Violence (2011). 2010 Georgia Domestic Violence Fatality Review Annual Report and fatality counts. *Due to enhanced collection of data and methodology updates beginning with the 2009 data, the increased number does not necessarily reflect more fatalities in Georgia but rather more accurate data collection.

2. Violence Policy Center (2010). "When Men Murder Women." www.vpc.org/studies/wmmw2010.pdf.

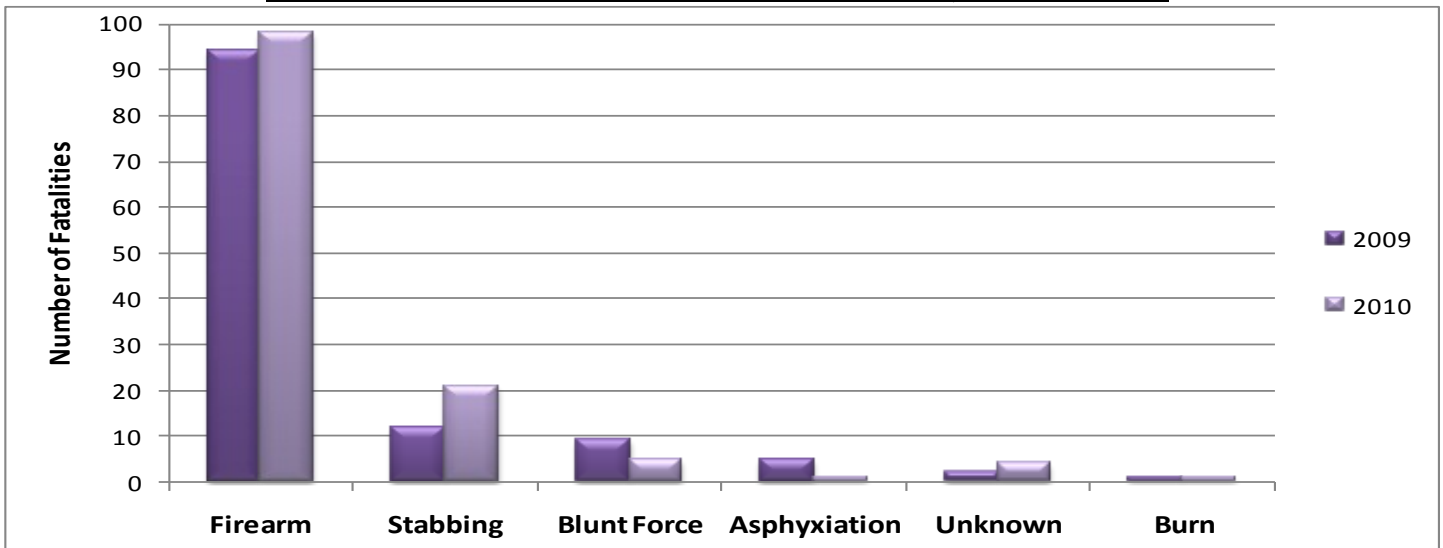
3. Georgia Department of Human Resources. Data provided to Georgia Coalition Against Domestic Violence by Georgia Department of Human Resource in January 2011.

4. Georgia Crime Information Center (2010). 2009 Georgia Family Violence Statistics. services.georgia.gov/gbi/crimestats/viewFamilyViolenceStatReport.do.

5. Georgia Commission on Family Violence, Georgia Coalition Against Domestic Violence (2011). 2010 Georgia Domestic Violence Fatality Review Annual Report. www.fatalityreview.com.

6. Georgia Protective Order Registry, Georgia Crime Information Center (2011). Personal communication by email, February 3, 2011.

Cause of Domestic Violence Fatalities, 2009-2010¹



National Domestic Violence Statistics

- ◆ **1 in 4 American women** will **experience domestic violence** at some point in her lifetime.²
- ◆ Since 1976, each year about **30%** of all female murder victims are **killed by their intimate partner**.³
- ◆ **85%** of domestic violence is **committed by men against women**.³
- ◆ **Women and men in same-sex relationships** experience domestic violence at the **same rates** as heterosexual women.⁴
- ◆ **Immigrants and refugees** experience violence at the **same rates as other communities**.⁵ However, immigrants and refugees experience increased barriers to services due to language access and fear about their immigration status.⁸
- ◆ **15.5 million children witnessed domestic violence** at least once **in the past year**.⁶
- ◆ Women are **more likely to be killed** by their partner **with a firearm** than **by all other means combined**.⁷

1-800-33-HAVEN (voice/TTY)

If you or someone you know is being abused, there are community and statewide resources available to you. Call the toll-free, 24-hour hotline for a confidential place to get help and find resources.

For more information:

Georgia Commission on Family Violence
www.gcfv.org
 404.463.0350
maggie.reeves@gaaoc.us

1. Georgia Commission on Family Violence, Georgia Coalition Against Domestic Violence (2011).
2. Black, M., et al. (2008). "Adverse Health Conditions and Health Risk Behaviors Associated with Intimate Partner Violence." *CDC: Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*. 57 (5).
3. U.S. Department of Justice (2000). Intimate Partner Violence Special Report. www.ojp.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/ipv.pdf.
4. Turell, S. C. (2000). "A descriptive analysis of same-sex relationship violence for a diverse sample." *Journal of Family Violence*. 15(3).
5. Tjaden P., & Thoennes, N. (2000). "Full Report of the Prevalence, Incidence, and Consequences of Violence Against Women." National Institute of Justice. www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/183781.pdf.
6. Whitfield, C., et al. (2003). "Violent Childhood Experiences and the Risk of Intimate Partner Violence in Adults." *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*. 18 (2).
7. Paulozzi, L., et al. (2001). "Surveillance for Homicide Among Intimate Partners." *CDC: Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*. 50 (3).
8. Dutton, M. A., Orloff, L., & Hass, G.A. (2000). "Characteristics of help-seeking behaviors, resources, and services needs of battered immigrant Latinas: Legal and policy implications." *Georgetown Journal on Poverty Law and Policy*. 7(2).