

Male Victims - Domestic and Partner Abuse Statistics

April 2010 – Produced by the ManKind Initiative

(A) BACKGROUND

The most authoritative source of statistics on partner abuse can be found from the crime statistics produced by the Home Office (England & Wales) and the Scottish Government. Some other organisations choose to use other statistics and their views should be discounted because those statistics used by the Home Office are based on anonymous large scale surveys, free from ideological bias and free from the under-reporting that is a particular problem when viewing statistics for male victims in comparison to those of female victims.

The most up-to-date and comprehensive statistics are available via the following sources.

- (1) British Crime Survey (2008/09) – Statistical Volume 2 (England and Wales) – see Chapter 3 <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs10/hosb0110.pdf>
- (2) Scottish Crime Survey (2008/09) – Partner Abuse <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/296149/0092065.pdf>

The statistics in the following pack are based on the British Crime Survey (not Scotland) plus other reliable sources.

Trend data is provided in a supplementary document on the ManKind Initiative web-site.

The Home Office definition of domestic abuse is correctly the one commonly used:-

Any incident or threatening behaviour, violence or abuse (psychological, physical, sexual, financial or emotional) between adults who are or have been intimate partners or are family members, regardless of gender or sexual orientation.

Partner abuse statistics are a subset where the domestic abuse can be clearly defined as being perpetrated by a partner or ex-partner.

The most commonly used statistic today stemming from the British Crime Survey (2004/05) remains valid - 1 in 6 (16%) men (aged between 16 and 59) will suffer domestic abuse in their lifetime. The figure for women is 1 in 4 (28%). This equates to a gender-victim ratio of: 36% male: 64% female, equating to 2.6 million men and 4.5 million women.

In common vernacular it means:

For every three victims of domestic abuse: two will be female and one will be male.

Source - British Crime Survey - <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs06/rdsolr1206.pdf> (Table 1.1. page 4)

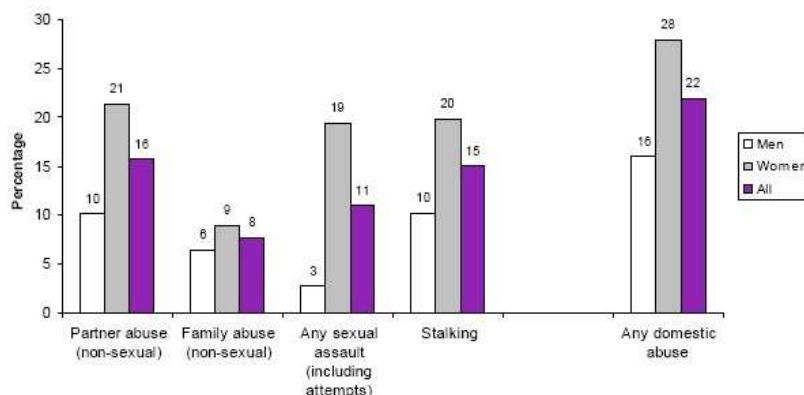
(B) EXECUTIVE SUMMARY STATISTICS

- (1) 1 in 6 (16%) men (aged 16 or over) will suffer domestic abuse in their lifetime. The figure for women is 1 in 4 (28%). This equates to a gender-victim ratio of: 36% male: 64% female. This equates to 2.6 million men and 4.5 million women.
- (2) 1 in 10 men (10.1%) report that they have been a victim of partner abuse since the age of 16. The figure for women is 1 in 5 (21.4%). This equates to a gender-victim ratio of: 32% male – 68% female. Again, for every three victims of partner abuse: two will be female and one will be male.
- (3) 1 in 17 men (5.7%) and 1 in 8 women (12.8%) report that they have been a victim of severe force at the hands of their partner since the age of 16. The gender-victim ratio is 31% male: 69% female
- (4) 1 in 10 men (10.2%) and 1 in 5 women (19.9%) aged 16 or over have been victims of stalking in their lifetime. This equates to a gender-victim ratio of: 34% male: 66% female; or 1 in 3 victims of stalking are male.
- (5) In 2008/09, 31 men and 101 were murdered by a partner/ex-partner (classified as the key suspect), a gender-victim ratio of 24% male. This equates to one man every 12 days.
- (6) The percentage of gay or bi-sexual men who suffer domestic abuse (8.9%) is double that of heterosexual/straight men (4.1%).
- (7) 20% of men who have suffered partner abuse have done so for more than one year (97,000 men) while 40% of women have done (496,000).
- (8) 9% of men who had suffered partner abuse in 2008/09 had taken time off of work. 11% of women had also
- (9) 10% of men who were victims of partner abuse in 2008/09 were abused six times or more, 15% of women suffered in the same way
- (10) Only 59% of male victims had told someone they were suffering from partner abuse in 2008/09 whilst 81% of women had.
- (11) The number of women convicted of perpetrating domestic abuse has trebled in the past five years: 2004/05 (806 Cases) and 2008/09 (2,968 Cases)
- (12) 20% of victims of forced marriage are men.
- (13) The average male victim is 43, is 5ft 9” tall and weighs 13st. The average female perpetrator is 40, is 5ft 4” tall and weighs 10st 7”
- (14) There are c80 bed spaces available to male victims in the UK (in 11 locations) and there are over 400 organisations with 500 refuges (with 7,500 spaces) in the UK specifically for women.

(C) ENGLAND & WALES (BRITISH CRIME SURVEY) 2008/09

The most comprehensive statistics show:-

Figure 3.1 Prevalence of intimate violence since age 16, by sex, 2008/09 BCS



Source: British Crime Survey (2008/09) – Statistical Volume 2 (England and Wales) – see Chapter 3 <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs10/hosb0110.pdf> (Figure 3.1 page 61)

(1) Domestic Abuse

- (i) 1 in 6 (16%) men (aged 16 or over) will suffer domestic abuse in their lifetime. The figure for women is 1 in 4 (28%). This equates to a gender-victim ratio of: 36% male: 64% female. This equates to 2.6 million men and 4.5 million women.

In common vernacular it means:

For every three victims of domestic abuse: two will be female and one will be male.

- (ii) 6.3% of women and 3.9% of men experienced domestic abuse in 2008/09. The equivalent of 1.15 million women and 629,000 men. This equates to a gender-victim ratio of 38% male: 62% female.

Source: British Crime Survey (2008/09) – Statistical Volume 2 (England and Wales) – see Chapter 3 <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs10/hosb0110.pdf> (Table 3.01 page 70)

(2) Partner Abuse

- (i) 1 in 10 men (10.1%) report that they have been a victim of partner abuse since the age of 16. The figure for women is 1 in 5 (21.4%). This equates to a gender-victim ratio of: 32% male – 68% female. Again, for every three victims of partner abuse: two will be female and one will be male.

- (ii) 2.9% of men and 4.8% of women experienced partner abuse in 2008/09, a gender-victim ratio of 38% male: 62% female. This equates to 430,000 men and 708,000 women.

Source: British Crime Survey (2008/09) – Statistical Volume 2 (England and Wales) – see Chapter 3
<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs10/hosb0110.pdf> (Table 3.01 page 70)

- (iii) There are many types of partner abuse and the table below sets out the differing form of partner abuse that men and women suffered in 2008/09.

As set out the overall figure shows that 38% of men suffer as opposed to 62% of women. The areas where men suffer above norm (that is 38%) are:-

- Stopped from seeing friends and relatives: 54%
- Kicked, bit or hit you, or threw something at you: 44%
- Used a weapon against you, for example, a stick or knife: 50%

Table 3.02 Detailed prevalence of intimate violence elements among adults aged 16 to 59

Percentages	2008/09 BCS self-completion module on intimate violence					
	Since the age of 16			In the last year		
	Men	Women	All	Men	Women	All
	% victims once or more					
Partner abuse (non-physical abuse, threats or force) - non-sexual ¹	10.1	21.4	15.8	2.7	4.4	3.5
Non-physical abuse (emotional, financial)	7.6	15.7	11.7	1.8	2.8	2.3
Prevented you from having your fair share of household money	1.9	5.8	3.9	0.3	0.8	0.6
Stopped you from seeing friends and relatives	5.3	8.5	6.9	1.4	1.2	1.3
Repeatedly belittled you so that you felt worthless	2.9	11.5	7.3	0.5	1.8	1.1
Threats ²	1.0	10.1	5.6	0.1	1.2	0.7
Force	8.9	16.6	11.8	1.2	2.2	1.7
- Minor ³	3.1	13.7	8.5	0.5	1.6	1.1
- Severe	5.7	12.8	9.3	0.9	1.5	1.2
Kicked, bit or hit you, or threw something at you	4.8	9.7	7.2	0.8	1.0	0.9
Choked or tried to strangle you	0.5	5.3	2.9	0.1	0.4	0.3
Threatened you with a weapon (e.g. a stick or knife)	1.1	2.7	1.9	0.1	0.2	0.1
Threatened to kill you	0.6	3.6	2.1	0.1	0.4	0.2
Used a weapon against you, for example a stick or knife	0.6	1.4	1.0	0.1	0.1	0.1
Used some other kind of force against you	1.0	4.9	2.9	0.1	0.5	0.3

Source: British Crime Survey (2008/09) – Statistical Volume 2 (England and Wales) – see Chapter 3
<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs10/hosb0110.pdf> (Table 3.02 page 71)

(3) Severe Force

- (i) 1 in 17 men (5.7%) and 1 in 8 women (12.8%) report that they have been a victim of severe force at the hands of their partner since the age of 16. The gender-victim ratio is 31% male: 69% female
- (ii) 0.9% men and 1.5% women were victims of severe force at the hands of their partner in 2008/09. The gender-victim ratio is 38% male: 62% female; or nearly 2 in 5 victims of severe force will be male. This equates to 120,000 men and 221,000 women.

Source: British Crime Survey (2008/09) – Statistical Volume 2 (England and Wales) – see Chapter 3
<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs10/hosb0110.pdf> (Table 3.01 page 70)

(4) Stalking

- (i) 1 in 10 men (10.2%) and 1 in 5 women (19.9%) aged 16 or over have been victims of stalking in their lifetime. This equates to a gender-victim ratio of: 34% male: 66% female; or 1 in 3 victims of stalking are male.

- (ii) 2.8% of men and 4.4% of women were victims of stalking in 2008/09. A gender-victim ratio of 39% male: 61% female; or 2 in every 5 victims of stalking are male. This equates to 415,000 men and 649,000 women.

Source: British Crime Survey (2008/09) – Statistical Volume 2 (England and Wales) – see Chapter 3 <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs10/hosb0110.pdf> (Table 3.01 page 70)

- (iii) The different types of stalking offences suffered by men and women in 2008/09 are shown in the table below.

As set out in (i), the overall figure shows that 39% of men suffer as opposed to 61% of women. The areas where men suffer above norm (that is 39%) are:-

- 61% of men stated that their property had been deliberately interfered with or damaged.

	Men	Wom	All	Men	Wom	All
Stalking	10.2	19.9	15.1	2.8	4.4	3.6
Sent you unwanted letters that were obscene/threatening	4.3	8.3	6.3	1.4	2.2	1.8
Made a number of obscene/threatening phone calls to you	4.7	10.4	7.6	0.9	1.6	1.2
Waited or loitered outside your home or workplace	1.7	5.7	3.7	0.3	0.7	0.5
Followed you around and watched you	1.2	6.0	3.6	0.2	0.8	0.5
Deliberately interfered with or damaged your property	3.2	3.2	3.2	0.8	0.5	0.7

Source: British Crime Survey (2008/09) – Statistical Volume 2 (England and Wales) – see Chapter 3 <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs10/hosb0110.pdf> Table 3.02 page 71)

(5) Sexual Orientation

- (i) The percentage of gay or bi-sexual men who suffer domestic abuse (8.9%) is double that of heterosexual/straight men (4.1%).
- (ii) 6.2% gay or bi-sexual men suffer partner abuse whilst 3.3% of heterosexual men do.
- (iii) The percentage of lesbian or bisexual women who suffer domestic abuse (17.3%) is nearly treble that of heterosexual/straight women (5.9%)
- (iv) 12.4% of lesbian or bi-sexual women suffer partner abuse whilst 4.3% of heterosexual women do.

Source: British Crime Survey (2008/09) – Statistical Volume 2 (England and Wales) – see Chapter 3 <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs10/hosb0110.pdf> (Table 3.07 page 76)

(6) Duration of Abuse

- (i) 20% of men who have suffered partner abuse have done so for more than one year (97,000 men) while 40% of women have done (496,000).
- (ii) 10% of men who were victims of partner abuse in 2008/09 were abused six times or more, 15% of women suffered in the same way. This equates to 36,000 men and 122,000 women (this means that of those victims abused more than six times 23% were men and 77% women which is different to the often quoted 89% female figure used by the Government/Women’s Aid and others).

Source: British Crime Survey (2008/09) – Statistical Volume 2 (England and Wales) – see Chapter 3 <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs10/hosb0110.pdf> (Table 3.11 page 78)

(7) Injuries and Emotional Effects

- (i) 45% of male and 59% of female victims suffered from emotional effects of their abuse in 2008/09, a gender-victim ratio of 43% male: 57% female.

The areas where men suffer above the norm (that is 43%) are:-

- Minor bruising or black eye (45%)
- Scratches (55%)
- Tried to commit suicide (60%)
- Internal bruising or broken bones/teeth (60%)

Table 3.13 Injuries and emotional effects experienced by victims of partner abuse aged 16 to 59 as a result of partner abuse in the last year, by sex

Percentages	2008/09 BCS self-completion module on intimate violence		
	Men	Women	All
Some injuries/ emotional effects	45	59	54
Mental or emotional problems (e.g. difficulty sleeping, depression)	15	33	26
Minor bruising or black eye	17	21	20
Scratches	16	13	14
Stopped trusting people/difficulty in other relationships	11	15	14
Severe bruising or bleeding from cuts	4	6	5
Tried to commit suicide	3	2	3
Internal bruising or broken bones/teeth	3	2	2
Other physical injuries	1	2	2
Becoming pregnant	N/A	1	1
Other	3	5	4
No injuries/ emotional effects	46	34	38
Don't know/don't want to answer	9	7	8
<i>Unweighted base</i>	<i>362</i>	<i>814</i>	<i>1,176</i>

1. Partner abuse includes non-physical abuse, threats, force, sexual assault and stalking.

Source: British Crime Survey (2008/09) – Statistical Volume 2 (England and Wales) – see Chapter 3 <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs10/hosb0110.pdf> (Table 3.13 page 79)

(8) Time off work

- (i) 9% of men who had suffered partner abuse in 2008/09 had taken time off of work. 11% of women had also

(9) Under-reporting

Under-reporting is far more prevalent in men than in women.

- (i) Only 59% of male victims had told someone they were suffering from partner abuse in 2008/09 whilst 81% of women had. 47% of men had told friends, family or neighbours compared to 66% of women.
- (ii) 1 in 3 callers to the ManKind Initiative help-line (2009) are from women (predominantly mothers and sisters) who want to seek help/information for their son or brother, who does not want to call or seek help himself.
- (ii) Only 10% of men had told the police compared to 20% of women

Table 3.18 Who victims of partner abuse in the last year aged 16 to 59 had told about the abuse, by sex

Percentages	2008/09 BCS self-completion module on intimate violence		
	Men	Women	All
Victim told someone	59	81	74
Friends, relatives or neighbours	47	66	59
Police	10	20	16
Someone at work	10	13	12
Health professional (e.g. doctor or nurse)	4	10	8
Counsellor/ therapist	5	7	6
Legal professional	4	6	5
Government agency (social services, housing department, benefit agency)	2	3	3
Victim support	0	3	2
Helpline (e.g. national domestic violence helpline, rape crisis line, men's helpline)	1	3	2
Women's refuge/group/centre	0	3	2
Someone else	5	4	4
Victim told no one	41	19	26
<i>Unweighted base</i>	269	666	935

1. Partner abuse includes non-physical abuse, threats, force, sexual assault and stalking.

2. Figures add to more than 100 as more than one response possible.

Source: British Crime Survey (2008/09) – Statistical Volume 2 (England and Wales) – see Chapter 3 <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs10/hosb0110.pdf> (Table 3.18 page 81)

(10) Murder

- (i) In 2008/09, 31 men and 101 were murdered by a partner/ex-partner (where the main suspect is a partner/ex-partner), a gender-victim ratio of 24% male: 76% women. For every four murder victims, 1 will be a male and 3 will be female. Over man per fortnight is murdered.

Source: British Crime Survey (2008/09) – Statistical Volume 2 (England and Wales) – see Chapter 3 <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs10/hosb0110.pdf> (Table 1.05 page 25)

- (ii) Over a 10-year period (1999/00 to 2008/09) – 290 men have been murdered by their partner/ex-partner as have 1,261 women. The average proportion of male victims over period - 23.0% (where the main suspect is a partner/ex-partner).

(D) OTHER STATISTICS

(1) Criminal Justice System - Convictions

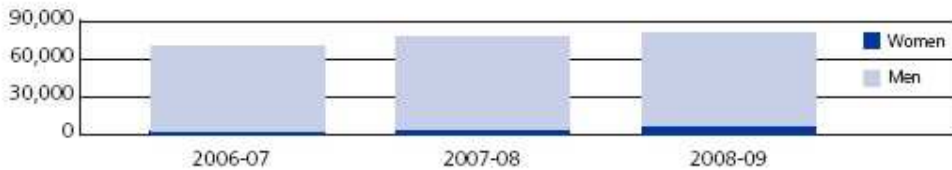
- (i) The number of women convicted of perpetrating domestic abuse has trebled in the past five years:

- 2004/05 = 806 Cases
- 2008/09 = 2,968 Cases

Source: Liberal Democrats (Ministry of Justice figures)

http://www.libdems.org.uk/press_releases_detail.aspx?title=Domestic_violence_up_a_third_in_four_years_-_Huhne&pPK=1689459c-44f1-4df7-8a23-271eab8d049f

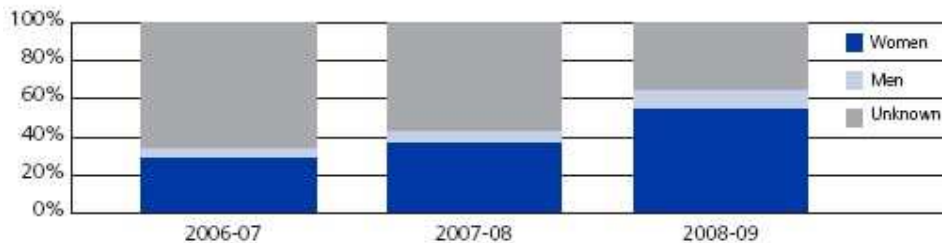
- (ii) According to Crown Prosecution Service statistics for England and Wales, 4,688 women were convicted of domestic violence offences in 2008/09, ie. 6% of the total convictions for such offences.



	2006-07		2007-08		2008-09	
	Volume	%	Volume	%	Volume	%
Women	3,339	4.8%	4,176	5.5%	4,668	5.9%
Men	65,580	95.1%	71,263	94.4%	73,827	94.0%
Unknown	11	0.0%	13	0.0%	28	0.0%
Total	68,930		75,452		78,523	

Source: Crown Prosecution Service: Violence Against Women Report (2008/09) - http://www.cps.gov.uk/publications/docs/CPS_VAW_report_2009.pdf (page 17)

- (iii) The CPS' figures show that 9.5% of victims were men and 54.5% were women. The large number of unknowns means the statistics need a health warning.



	2006-07		2007-08		2008-09	
	Volume	%	Volume	%	Volume	%
Women	7,892	29.3%	19,514	37.3%	34,705	54.5%
Men	1,405	5.2%	3,239	6.2%	6,064	9.5%
Unknown	17,682	65.5%	29,524	56.5%	22,914	36.0%
Total	26,979		52,277		63,683	

Source: Crown Prosecution Service: Violence Against Women Report (2008/09) - http://www.cps.gov.uk/publications/docs/CPS_VAW_report_2009.pdf (page 17)

(2) Forced Marriage

- (i) 20% of victims of forced marriage are men (Home Office)

Source: Department of Children, Society and the Family <http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/research/data/uploadfiles/DCSF-RR128.pdf> (page 26)

(3) Height, Weight and Age of Male Victims and Female Perpetrators

- (i) Male Victim
- Age: 43
 - Height: 5ft 9"
 - Weight: 13st

(ii) Female Perpetrator

- Age: 40
- Height: 5ft 4"
- Weight: 10st 7"

Source: ManKind Initiative help-line survey (2009)

(4) Female Violence

- (i) The number of women being arrested for violence increased from 31,000 in 2000 to 88,000 in 2007.

Sources: http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs09/violent_crime_0708.xls and <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/newsttopics/politics/lawandorder/5251042/Rise-of-ladette-culture-as-241-women-arrested-each-day-for-violence.html>

(E) REFUGES AND SUPPORT FOR MALE VICTIMS

The ManKind Initiative believes that, although support is improving, services for male victims are decades behind those for women victims.

(1) Refuges

- (i) There are only a few organisations in England and Wales (none in Scotland or Northern Ireland) which provide refuge houses and safe rooms specifically for men.
- There are four organisations running four male refuges (with 23 spaces) in the UK and seven organisations providing safe houses for men (with 60 spaces though most are not dedicated for men, but are just available for men)
Source: The ManKind Initiative
 - There are over 400 organisations with 500 refuges (with 7,500 spaces) in the UK specifically for women.
Source: Women's Aid/Refuge

(2) Funding

(i) Supporting People Programme

The Home Office, through its Supporting People Programme, has provided local authorities with £60 million per year since 2003 (£66 million in 2008/09) in financial support under the Supporting People housing initiative for Women at Risk of Domestic Violence. This funding is available to support male victims as well (even though the name of the fund is Women at Risk of Domestic Violence) but the vast vast majority of local authorities do not bid to use this money for male victims.

(3) Organisations

There are five charitable organisations/helplines that provide support for male victims at a national level:

The ManKind Initiative
The Dyn Project (*Wales*)
Male Advice Line (*part of Respect charity*)
Broken Rainbow (*LGBT charity*)
The Men's Project (*Northern Ireland*)

Produced by The ManKind Initiative April 2010