

Teen Dating Violence in Utah

Introduction

Teen dating violence (TDV) is physical, sexual, or psychological/emotional violence within a dating relationship, as well as stalking. It can occur in person or electronically and may occur between current or former dating partners.

TDV includes four types of behavior :

- **Physical Abuse:** a pattern of harassing or threatening tactics used by a person that is both unwanted and causes fear in the victim.
- **Emotional Abuse:** threatening a partner or harming his or her sense of self-worth. Examples include name calling, shaming, bullying, embarrassing on purpose, or keeping him/her away from friends and family.
- **Sexual Abuse:** forcing a partner to engage in a sex act when he or she does not want to or cannot consent.
- **Stalking:** a pattern of harassing or threatening tactics used by a person that is both unwanted and causes fear in the person he or she is dating.



Health Effects of Dating Violence

Dating violence can have a negative effect on health throughout life. Teens who experience dating violence are more likely to be depressed and do poorly in school. They may engage in unhealthy behaviors, like using drugs and alcohol, and are more likely to have eating disorders. Some teens even think about or attempt suicide. Teens who experience dating violence in high school are at higher risk for victimization during college.ⁱ

U.S.

According to the National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Surveyⁱⁱ:

Most female victims of completed rape (**79.6%**) experienced their first rape before the age of 25; **42.2%** experienced their first completed rape before the age of 18 years.

More than one-quarter of male victims of completed rape (**27.8%**) experienced their first rape when they were 10 years of age or younger.

More than half of female victims and more than one-third of male victims of stalking indicated that they were stalked before the age of 25; about 1 in 5 female victims and 1 in 14 male victims experienced stalking between the ages of 11 and 17.

Most female and male victims of rape, physical violence, and/or stalking by an intimate partner experienced some form of intimate partner violence for the first time before 25 years of age.

Figure 1: Percentage of High School Students Who Report Being Electronically Bullied By Gender, Utah, 2013 YRBS

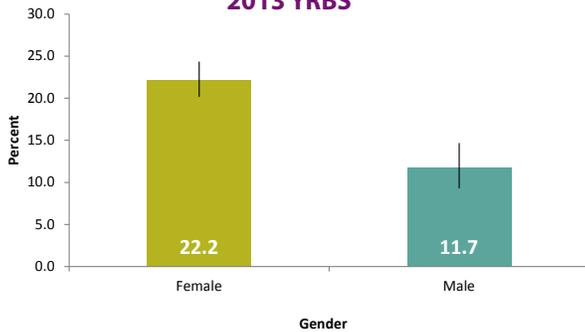


Figure 2: Percentage of High School Students Who Reported Being Verbally or Emotionally Harmed By Gender, Utah, 2013 YRBS

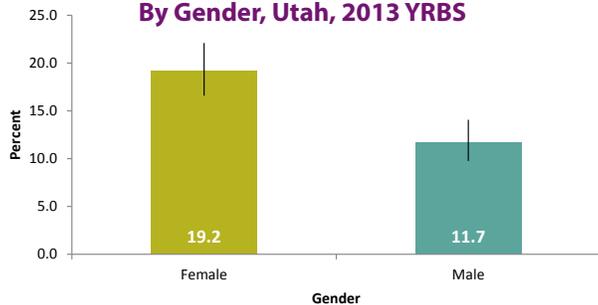


Figure 3: Percentage of High School Students Who Reported Being Forced to Do Sexual Things They Did Not Want to By Gender, Utah, 2013 YRBS

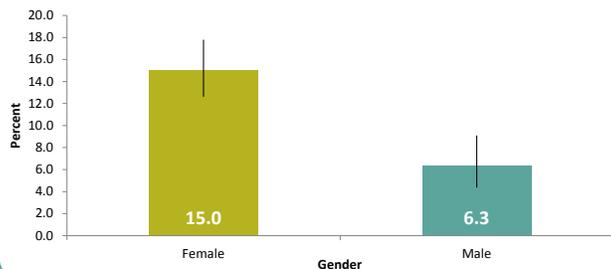
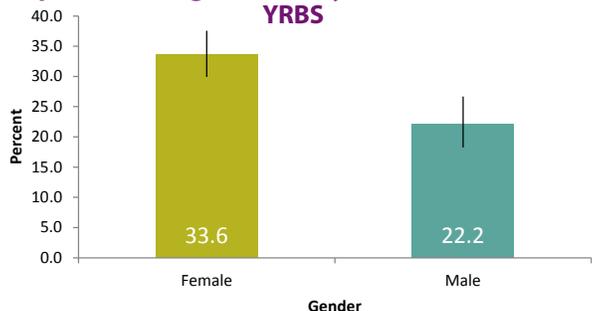


Figure 4: Percentage of High School Students Who Reported Dating Violence By Gender, Utah, 2013 YRBS



Utah High School Students

Utah high school students reported the following during the past 12 months according to the 2013 Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance Systemⁱⁱⁱ:

- **21.9%** of students were bullied on school property.
- **16.8%** were electronically bullied.
- Females were more likely to be electronically bullied compared to males (**Figure 1**).
- **7.3%** were physically forced to have sexual intercourse when they did not want to.

Among students who dated or went out with someone during the past 12 monthsⁱⁱⁱ:

- **22.7%** of students reported being verbally or emotionally harmed one or more times.
- Females were more likely to report being verbally or emotionally harmed one or more times compared to males (**Figure 2**).
- **6.9%** of students reported being physically hurt on purpose one or more times.
- **10.7%** of students reported being forced to do sexual things they did not want to do.
- Females were more likely to report being forced to do sexual things they did not want to compared to males (**Figure 3**).

Overall, of the students who were in a dating relationship, **27.9%** experienced dating violence. Females were more likely to report dating violence compared to males (**Figure 4**).

If your life has been affected by teen dating violence, the Utah Department of Health wants to hear from you. Share your story at the Utah Health Story Bank at www.health.utah.gov/bhp/sb/.

Resources

Utah Domestic Violence Link Line **1-800-897-LINK (5465)**

Utah Rape and Sexual Assault Crisis Line **1-888-421-1100**

The National Domestic Violence Hotline www.thehotline.org
1-800-799-SAFE (7233) 1-800-787-3224 (TTY)

Utah Domestic Violence Council (UDVC) **801-521-5544**

Utah Coalition Against Sexual Assault (UCASA) **801-746-0404**

CDC Violence Prevention www.cdc.gov/ViolencePrevention/index.html

i. CDC, Understanding Teen Dating Violence Fact Sheet 2012
ii. Black MC, Basile KC, Breiding MJ, Smith SG, Walters ML, Merrick MT, Chen J, Stevens MR. The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (NISVS): 2010 Summary Report. Atlanta, GA: National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2011. Available from www.cdc.gov/ViolencePrevention/pdf/NISVS_Report2010-a.pdf.
iii. Utah Department of Health (UDOH). Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System 2013

Our Mission

We are a trusted and comprehensive resource for data related to violence and injury. Through education, this information helps promote partnerships and programs to prevent injuries and improve public health.

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