DOMESTIC VIOLENCE* PROFILE TWO

This profile uses the most current data to assist Extension Agents in understanding some of the indicators of prevalence of domestic violence in their counties. These data are intended to supplement other profiles on domestic violence developed by Extension. The format for presenting these data is used in order to remain consistent with other county profiles created by HEEL. In reviewing these profiles, please refer to the “cautions” discussed on the back about the appropriate use of these data. Data sources are also listed on the back.

To create this profile, the following data are used as indicators of prevalence of domestic violence: the estimated expectation of adult women in the county who may have experienced intimate partner violence at least once since the age of 18; the estimated expectation of adult women in the county who may have experienced intimate partner violence at least once in the 12 months prior to the 2002 survey completed by the Kentucky Intimate Partner Violence Surveillance Project; and the estimated number of domestic violence-related calls received through regional spouse abuse shelter crisis lines. Because these data were collected and reported by Area Development Districts or statewide random samples, the county data that was concluded by calculating estimates, rates, and quintiles are not useful. However, one could compare these supplemental data to the DOMESTIC VIOLENCE profiles to determine if the rate and quintile rankings are compatible. Approximately 37% of the women responding to the random sample survey reported that they had been abused, at least once, by an intimate partner since reaching adulthood. On the same survey, about 7 percent of these women reported that they had been abused by an intimate partner in the 12 months prior to the survey.

Domestic Violence Indicators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DOMESTIC VIOLENCE</th>
<th>Quintile</th>
<th>Nelson County Estimated expectation 2002</th>
<th>Nelson County Rates per 1000</th>
<th>Kentucky Rates per 1000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RELATED CALLS TO SPOUSE ABUSE CENTERS</td>
<td></td>
<td>198.0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WOMEN 18+ WHO EXPERIENCED INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE AT LEAST ONCE AS AN ADULT</td>
<td></td>
<td>5,506.0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WOMEN 18+ WHO EXPERIENCED INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,042.0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*For purposes of this profile, the term domestic violence is used to also include spouse abuse and intimate partner violence. Data sources tend to use terms interchangeably.

Information compiled by:
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DOMESTIC VIOLENCE Profile Two

CAUTIONS:

These data are intended to help the County Extension Agents in program planning and should be used in conjunction with county profiles titled, “DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, Profile One.”

There are many cautions to keep in mind when using these data to educate the public or assist in program planning. One reality that has to be accepted is that: WE WILL NEVER KNOW THE ACTUAL EXTENT OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE. Given this reality, and because of the nature, complexity, and the risks associated with surveillance the data provided is reliable but most likely are underestimates of true prevalence. The use of data from telephone surveys of random sample populations carry with it cautions such as: the density of telephones (According to CDC 18% of Kentuckians do not have telephones.); access to telephone numbers is limited to land lines, thus excluding all cellular phones; with the same training for all interviewers there are still differences in the style and personal quality of interviews; in the survey there was a low response rate from African American and Latino women.

This profile does not reflect an exhaustive list of possible data sources. The decision was made not to use records from emergency rooms, in-patient hospital admissions, mental health centers or private physicians. There are also data in court and police records that were not used. There are several reasons for not using these available data including: vagueness of definitions, inconsistency in ways data were recorded, and concerns about the purpose of collecting the data (for example, some hospitals collect these data for billing purposes which may distort information about an incident and prevalence of an injury or condition.) The creation of county profiles requires county level data or data that can be estimated. Much of these data were compiled by district, region or state.

SOURCES:

Kentucky Domestic Violence Association and Kentucky Association of Sexual Assault Programs (2002).