



# Domestic and intimate partner violence in nine Chicago community areas

HEALTH SNAPSHOT NO.10

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**D**omestic violence, which includes rape, sexual assault, robbery, and aggravated assault committed by intimate partners, immediate family members, or other relatives, is a major public health problem, accounting for 21% of all violent crime in the US.<sup>1</sup> Intimate partner violence, which occurs between current or former spouses or dating partners, includes physical or sexual violence, stalking, and/or psychological aggression.<sup>2</sup> One in three women in the US is a victim of some form of physical violence by an intimate partner during her lifetime, with over 50% of female rape victims citing a domestic partner as the perpetrator.<sup>3</sup> Many survivors of intimate partner violence experience gynecological and other physiological health problems, pregnancy complications, suicidal ideation, and substance abuse.<sup>3</sup> This health snapshot presents findings related to domestic and intimate partner violence from the *Sinai Community Health Survey 2.0*, a community-driven, representative survey of nine communities in Chicago.

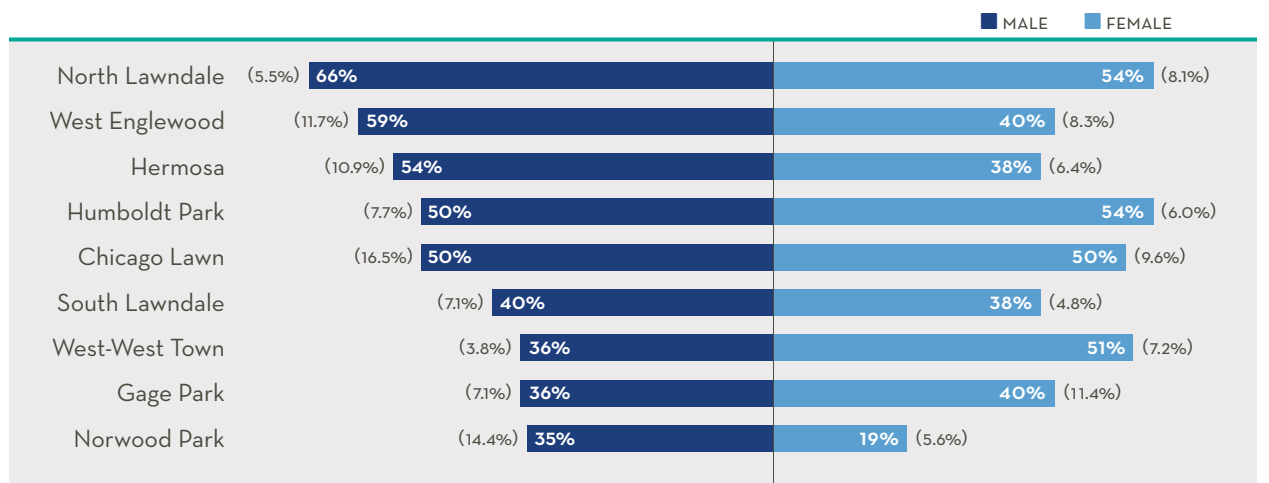
### WHICH COMMUNITIES ARE MOST AFFECTED?

- Two out of three males in North Lawndale reported ever witnessing domestic violence.
- In West Englewood, Humboldt Park, and North Lawndale, about one in three females reported ever experiencing intimate partner violence.

### WHO IS MOST AFFECTED?

- Over half of non-Hispanic Black adults and females of Puerto Rican origin reported ever witnessing domestic violence.
- Over 40% of females of Puerto Rican origin reported ever experiencing intimate partner violence.

**FIGURE 1: Percent who ever witnessed domestic violence by community area and sex**

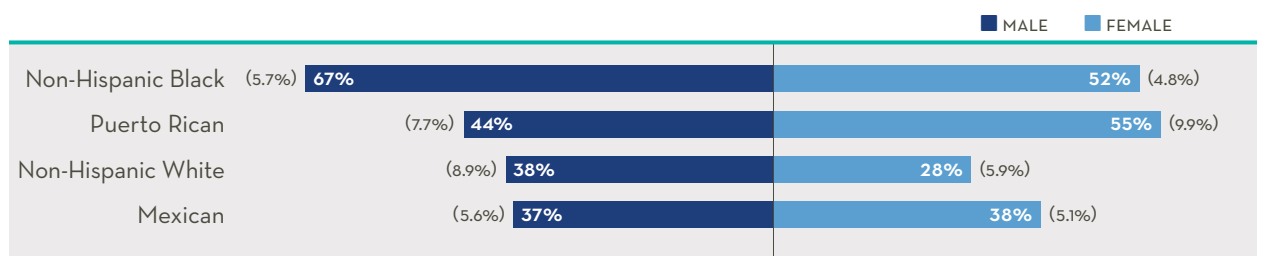


Sampled West Town community area west of Western Avenue only  
No national comparison data available

PREVALENCE (STANDARD ERROR)

- The percentage of females who ever witnessed domestic violence ranged from a high of 54% for females in North Lawndale and Humboldt Park to a low of 19% for females in Norwood Park.
- The percentage of males who ever witnessed domestic violence ranged from a high of 66% for males in North Lawndale to a low of 35% for males in Norwood Park.

**FIGURE 2: Percent who ever witnessed domestic violence by race/ethnicity and sex**

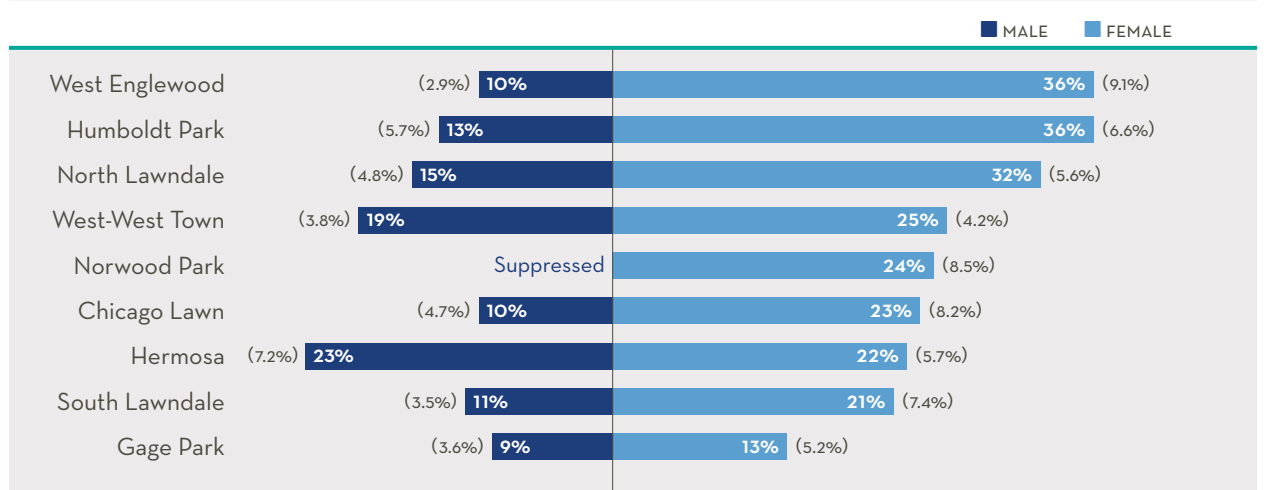


No national comparison data available  
Rao-Scott Chi-Square p-value = 0.0017 (males); p = 0.0102 (females)

PREVALENCE (STANDARD ERROR)

- There was a statistically significant difference in the percentage of females who ever witnessed domestic violence by race/ethnic group, which was highest for females of Puerto Rican origin (55%) and lowest for non-Hispanic White females (28%).
- There was also a statistically significant difference in the percentage of males who ever witnessed domestic violence by race/ethnic group, which was highest for non-Hispanic Black males (67%) and lowest for males of Mexican origin (37%).

**FIGURE 3: Percent who ever experienced intimate partner violence by community area and sex**

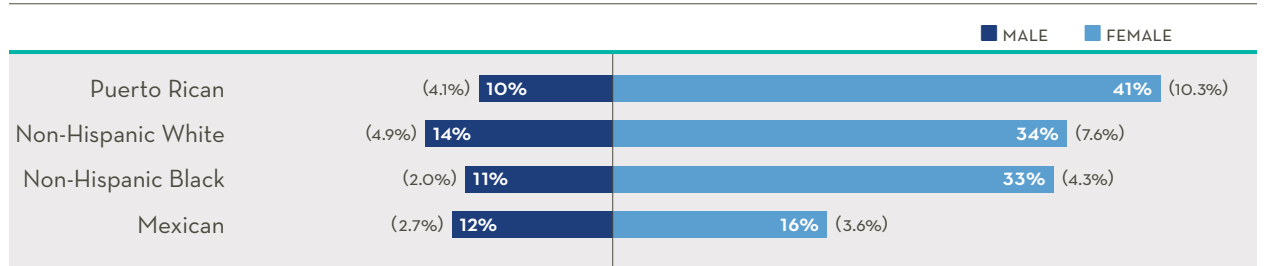


Sampled West Town community area west of Western Avenue only  
No national comparison data available

PREVALENCE (STANDARD ERROR)

- The percentage of females who ever experienced intimate partner violence ranged from a high of 36% for females in West Englewood and Humboldt Park to a low of 13% for females in Gage Park.
- The percentage of males who ever experienced intimate partner violence ranged from a high of 23% for males in Hermosa to a low of 9% for males in Gage Park.

**FIGURE 4: Percent who ever experienced intimate partner violence by race/ethnicity and sex**



No national comparison data available  
Rao-Scott Chi-Square p-value = 0.9039 (males); p = 0.0066 (females)

PREVALENCE (STANDARD ERROR)

- There was a statistically significant difference in the percentage of females who ever experienced intimate partner violence by race/ethnic group, which was highest for females of Puerto Rican origin (41%) and lowest for females of Mexican origin (16%).
- The percentage of males who ever experienced intimate partner violence was highest for non-Hispanic White males (14%) and lowest for males of Puerto Rican origin (10%). These differences were not statistically significant.

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## ABOUT THE SURVEY

Sinai Urban Health Institute (SUHI) is a unique, nationally-recognized research center on the west side of Chicago. Our mission is to achieve health equity among communities through excellence and innovation in data-driven research, interventions, evaluation, and collaboration. SUHI is a proud member of Sinai Health System. For more information about SUHI, visit [www.SUHChicago.org](http://www.SUHChicago.org).

SUHI designed and conducted the *Sinai Community Health Survey 2.0* in partnership with our Community Advisory Committee and The University of Illinois at Chicago Survey Research Laboratory (SRL). SRL administered surveys face-to-face in both English and Spanish to randomly selected households from each of the nine surveyed communities. Interviewers randomly selected up to two adults (18 and over) per household. Data collection took place between March 2015 and September 2016 with a final sample size of 1,543 adults. Survey results are representative at the community area level for all communities with the exception of West Town, which was sampled west of Western Avenue only. More information about the survey is available at [www.SinaiSurvey.org](http://www.SinaiSurvey.org).

## DEFINITIONS

***Ever witnessed domestic violence*** was defined as having ever witnessed an incident of domestic violence.

***Ever experienced intimate partner violence*** was defined as having ever been emotionally or physically abused by your partner or someone important to you.

## METHODS

We used sampling weights to compute statistical estimates to ensure (1) the estimates accounted for the differential probability of the selection of respondents; and (2) the demographic profile of survey respondents matched the community area demographic profiles from the 2010–2014 *American Community Survey*. The Rao-Scott Chi-Square test was used to test for statistical differences by race/ethnic group and sex. Findings were suppressed when the number of observations was less than five.

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## REFERENCES

1. Truman JL, Morgan RE. Nonfatal domestic violence, 2003-2012. 2014. <http://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/ndvo312.pdf>. Accessed December 20, 2016.
2. Understanding Intimate Partner Violence. 2014. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Division of Violence Prevention. <https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/ipv-factsheet.pdf>. Accessed December 30, 2016.
3. Black MC, Basile KC, Breiding MJ, Smith SG, Walters ML, Merrick MT, Chen, J, Stevens, M. The national intimate partner and sexual violence survey: 2010 summary report. 2011. [http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/nisvs\\_report2010-a.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/nisvs_report2010-a.pdf). Accessed December 20, 2016.