CalVEX
CALIFORNIA VIOLENCE EXPERIENCES SURVEY

2025 Key Findings
GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE (IPV)

1 *in* 17 **Californians** (6%)—approximately **2 million people**—experienced IPV in the past year.

- ***Gender non-conforming adults faced the greatest burden***, with more than 1 in 5 (22%) reporting past year IPV in 2025.
- ***Past year IPV was strongly associated with:*** *anxiety, depression, substance use, housing instability, and disruptions to employment and relationships*—underscoring its profound health and social consequences.

1 *in* 2 **California adults** (52%)—around **16 million people**—have experienced IPV in their lifetime.

- ***Threats to harm self or others*** was experienced by 21% of women, 11% of men, and 22% of gender non-conforming people.
- ***Choking/suffocation***, the most common form of potentially lethal IPV, was reported by 10% of women, 2% of men, and 5% of gender non-conforming people.
- ***Gun related IPV*** was reported by 2% of women, 1% of men, and 2% of gender non-conforming people.

ABOUT THE SURVEY The California Violence Experiences Survey (CalVEX) 2025 provides population-based estimates of physical violence, sexual violence, intimate partner violence (IPV), discrimination, economic shocks, firearm-related attitudes, and mental and behavioral health outcomes among adults aged 18 years and older in California. Fielded in May–June 2025 with 4,007 respondents, CalVEX 2025 offers a comprehensive picture of violence as it is experienced across the lifespan and across social contexts, extending beyond what is captured in crime or administrative data systems. The California Violence Experiences Survey is generously funded by the Blue Shield of California Foundation.

SEXUAL VIOLENCE

1 *in* 11 **California adults** (9%)—roughly **2 million people**—**experienced sexual violence** in the past year, with gender non-conforming people (49%) at greater risk than women (10%) and men (7%).

Among California adults in 2025:

- **5%** experienced *verbal sexual harassment*
- **3%** experienced *homophobic or transphobic comments*
- **2%** experienced *cyber sexual harassment*
- **2%** experienced *physically aggressive sexual harassment*
- **1%** experienced *quid pro quo sexual harassment* (sexual exploitation)
- **1%** experienced *forced sex*

About **1 *in* 8 Californians** (13%) **have experienced forced sex** in their lifetime.

More than **1 *in* 17 Californians** (6%) **have experienced quid pro quo sexual harassment** in their lifetime.

1 *in* 8 Californians experienced sexual violence in childhood, and such exposure only increased in adolescence and into adulthood:

- **13%** experienced *sexual violence in childhood* (age 0–12)
- **28%** experienced *sexual violence in adolescence* (age 13–17)
- **32%** experienced *sexual violence in young adulthood* (age 18–34)

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