

**NATIONAL  
DOMESTIC  
VIOLENCE  
HOTLINE**

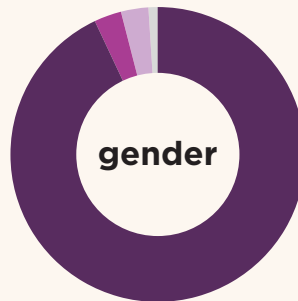
In 2022, as part of the Survivor Health Connection Project, the National Domestic Violence

Hotline (The Hotline®) conducted a focus survey, as a follow-up to our initial survey conducted in 2021 in partnership with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Bureau of Primary Health Care (BPHC), HRSA Office of Women’s Health (OWH), and the HHS Administration for Children and Families (ACF) Family and Youth Services Bureau. The purpose of the 2022 survey was to continue identifying the primary healthcare needs and experiences of those who contacted The Hotline and were impacted by relationship abuse.

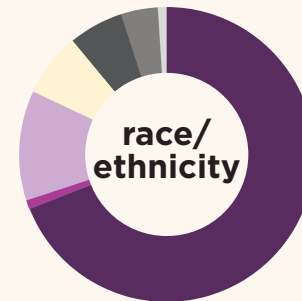
The voluntary and anonymous survey was conducted in English and Spanish July 1, 2022–August 28, 2022, with those calling, chatting, or texting The Hotline for live services or visiting [thehotline.org](https://thehotline.org). **There were 338 respondents.** (Not all participants chose to answer every question).

## Intersections of Domestic Violence and Primary Healthcare

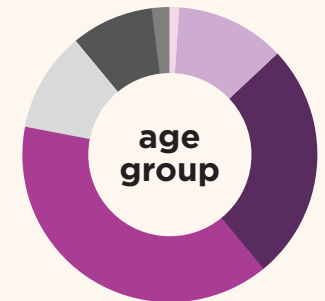
Of the respondents who chose to identify:



- female **92%**
- male **3%**
- non-binary/gender-fluid **3%**
- other **1%**

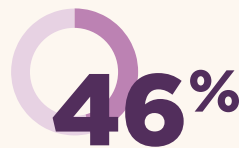


- White/Caucasian **69%**
- Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander **< 1%**
- Latino/Hispanic **12%**
- Bi-/Multi-racial **7%**
- Black/African American **6%**
- Asian (East, Southeast, and South) **4%**
- Arab/Middle Eastern/Northern African **< 1%**



- 13–18 **less than 1%**
- 19–24 **12%**
- 25–33 **27%**
- 34–45 **40%**
- 46–51 **11%**
- 52–63 **9%**
- 64+ **2%**

Due to rounding of your data calculations, these numbers may not equal 100%



of respondents reported their partner who had been abusive, controlled and/or restricted their access to healthcare.

Compared to 53% in the 2021 survey.

*“After I left him, he canceled my insurance without telling me, leaving me without insurance for months until I found out.”*



of respondents reported that they do not feel safe during telehealth or virtual healthcare appointments.

Compared to 25% in the 2021 survey. (During the pandemic, many providers switched to telehealth.)

*“They’re (virtual appointments) only safe when he’s gone at work. But even then, there are cameras that can overhear me.”*



of respondents agreed that their healthcare provider did spend time or talk with them without the (abusive) partner present.

Compared to 42% in the 2021 survey.

In a separate post-interaction survey with those contacting The Hotline, **62%** of respondents stated they had current health (physical, mental and/or emotional) needs related to their abusive experience.

\*The post interaction survey was conducted throughout 2022 by The Hotline and had more than 10,000 respondents.

**45%** of respondents expressed being extremely or somewhat likely to share their abusive experience with their health care provider, while **24%** stated they would be unlikely to.

When asked, **“What barriers they were facing when trying to access healthcare?”** respondents said:



finances



insurance coverage (lack thereof)



transportation



childcare (lack of)



*“He manages the money and decides when I go to doctor.”*

*“I lost my coverage when I left my abuser. For a little while, the ACA (Affordable Care Act) helped me get medical treatment, but then became out of reach.”*

When asked, **“What has made you, or would make you feel more comfortable when reaching out to a healthcare provider?”** respondents said:



feeling like the provider would believe me



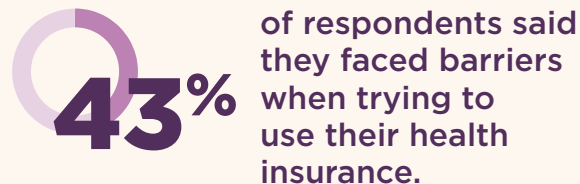
trauma-informed care



trusting the staff



guarantee of confidentiality



*“Without insurance I can’t see a therapist, get my anxiety medication”*

*“Deductible is too high, I have a pre-ACA plan that won’t cover certain health issues, and there are not a lot of in-network providers.”*

## About The Hotline®

The Hotline’s mission is to answer the call to support and shift power back to those affected by relationship abuse — 24/7/365. Established in 1996 and headquartered in Austin, Texas, The Hotline is the only national 24-hour domestic violence hotline providing compassionate support, life-saving resources, and personalized safety planning via phone, online chat, and text. To date, The Hotline has answered more than 6.4 million calls, chats, and texts. Services are provided in English and Spanish through bilingual advocates and in more than 200 other languages through translation services. The Hotline is a frontline resource for survivors, often the first source to validate that abuse is being experienced, and a trusted provider of resources, referrals, and safety planning.



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**Call: 1-800-799-SAFE (7233)    Chat: [thehotline.org](https://thehotline.org)    Text: “START” to 88788**