

Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services

Oklahoma State Treatment Needs Assessment Project 1999 Native American Telephone Survey Domestic Violence Component

With funding from the federal Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT), the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (DMHSAS) conducted the General Household State Treatment Needs Assessment Survey. As part of this project, a telephone survey of Native American households was conducted to supply Oklahoma with information the State needs to plan and provide effective substance abuse services for Native American citizens in need. As with the General Household Substance Abuse Survey, the instrument included questions regarding domestic violence. This document is a report of the results of the domestic violence portion of the survey in conjunction with the substance abuse survey results.

Methodology

A Computer-Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI) system with random-digit-dialing was used to complete 1,200 telephone interviews. There were 24,452 telephone numbers randomly selected for the sample. Of those, 1,200 resulted in valid interviews. The overall response rate was about 74%. In addition, 460 Native Americans were reached through the general household survey and their responses were combined with those from the targeted Native American surveys. This combination resulted in a total of 1,660 completed surveys of Native Americans.

Among the 1,660 adult respondents, 990 (59.6%) were female and among those, 661 were either married or in a marriage-like relationship with a male during 1999. All of the 661 responded to the domestic violence questions.

As with the General Household Survey, statistical analyses were performed on the survey data to produce estimates of the number of females who were emotionally and/or physically abused. A positive response to any of the following seven statements was used to determine the female was emotionally abused.

1. He restricts your contact with family or friends.
2. He prevents you from getting or keeping a job.
3. He always insists on knowing who you are with and where you are.
4. He stops you from talking to or looking at other men, or he restricts the clothes you wear.
5. He often calls you mean names or says things to put you down or make you feel bad about yourself.
6. He takes your money or prevents you from knowing about or having access to the family income.
7. He often makes you afraid of him.

A positive response to any of the following nine statements was used to determine the female was physically abused.

1. During the past 12 months, he tried to hit you with something or threw anything at you that could hurt you.
2. During the past 12 months, he pushed, grabbed or shoved you.
3. During the past 12 months, he slapped or bit you.
4. During the past 12 months, he forced you into any sexual activity even though you made it clear that you did not want to, by threatening you, holding you down, or hurting you in some way.
5. During the past 12 months, he kicked you or hit you with his fist.
6. During the past 12 months, he hit you with something that could hurt you.
7. During the past 12 months, he choked you.
8. During the past 12 months, he beat you up.
9. During the past 12 months, he used a gun or knife on you.

Screening for alcohol and illicit drug use and the definition of need for treatment were the same as used for the general household survey. Statistical analyses were performed on the survey data to produce estimates of domestic violence, substance use and treatment need for Native American adult females in each of the eight DMHSAS sub-state planning areas and for various characteristics.

Results

- An estimated 44,764 Native American females in Oklahoma were married or in a marriage-like relationship in 1999.
- Among the 44,764 females, it was estimated 12,412 (27.7%) had been abused in some manner in the 12 months prior to the survey.
- Three mutually exclusive groups were analyzed: those with emotional abuse but no reported physical abuse, those with physical abuse but no reported emotional abuse, and those with both emotional and physical abuse. Among the estimated 12,412 with some reported abuse, 9,296 (74.9%) had emotional abuse with no physical abuse, 513 (4.1%) had physical abuse with no emotional abuse, and 2,603 (21.0%) had both emotional and physical abuse.

Emotionally Abused Only (No Reported Physical Abuse)

- Among the estimated 9,296 Native American women who reported emotional abuse but no physical abuse, 76.6% reported their partner insisted on knowing their whereabouts, followed by 20.2% with partners who called them names and lowered their self esteem. Five percent reported their partner made them afraid (see Table 1).

- As shown in Table 2, the majority of the estimated number of females who reported only emotional abuse were 45 years of age or younger (15.8%, 18 to 25 years of age; 23.6%, 26 to 35 years of age; and 17.1%, 36 to 45 years of age). Less than 1% of the 9,296 Native American women were Hispanic, most had at least a high school education (79.1%), and were employed full-time (40.2%), were full-time homemakers (22.6%) or retired (15.7%). Only 1.5% were unemployed and looking for work.
- Most of the women (60.5%) reported good physical health while 51.8% reported good psychological health and 36.1% fair psychological health. Seven percent were pregnant during the 12 months prior to the interview (see Table 2).
- In addition to the domestic violence questionnaire, a mental health questionnaire was included in the survey. This questionnaire was used to estimate the number of respondents with a serious mental illness. Among those respondents who were emotionally abused only, an estimated 6.8% had a serious mental illness in the 30 days prior to the survey.
- The Regional Advisory Board (RAB) areas with the highest estimates were the Northeast area with 24.5% and the Southeast area with 20.2%. The smallest percentages occurred in the western part of the state, with the Southwest having 4.8% and the Northwest with insufficient responses to estimate (see Table 2).
- Analysis of substance use in the 18 months prior to the interview and need for treatment indicated that alcohol was the preferred substance (52.9%), followed by marijuana (1.5%) and 9.4% were in need of alcohol treatment (see Table 3).
- Table 4 contains characteristics of the Native American female's partner. Among the 9,296 females, 27.1% had partners 36 to 45 years of age, 17.9% had partners 26 to 35 years of age and 17.9% had partners 66 years of age or older. The majority of the women were in relationships with White partners (67.4%), followed by Native American partners (24.8%). The majority of the partners had at least a high school education (76%), were employed full-time (66%), not on active military duty (98.6%) and drank less than once per month (63.3%).

Physically Abused Only (No Reported Emotional Abuse)

- Among the estimated 513 adult Native American females with physical abuse but no emotional abuse, 100% reported being pushed, grabbed or shoved, followed by 14.8% being hit or having something thrown at them that could hurt and 14.8% reported being kicked or hit with a fist (see Table 1).
- All of the women were age 45 or younger, none was Hispanic, all had at least a high school education, none was employed full-time, 29.5% were employed part-time and 70.5% were unemployed (see Table 2).
- As shown in Table 2, when asked about their health, 85.3% reported having good physical health while 70% reported having fair psychological health.

None of the women reported being pregnant in the 12 months prior to the interview.

- None of the respondents with physical abuse only was estimated to have a serious mental illness in the 30 days prior to the survey.
- The RAB area with the highest percentage of Native American females reporting physical abuse only (35.1%) was the OKC area, followed by the East Central area 29.5% and the Central area with 20.7% (see Table 2).
- Most of the females reported alcohol use in the 18 months prior to the interview (70.6%). None of the respondents reported illicit drug use or was determined to be in need of any substance abuse treatment (see Table 3).
- As shown in Table 4, all of the partners of females reporting physical abuse only were under age 55, 64.9% were White with the remainder Native American, 55.2% had a high school diploma but no college education, 87.5% were employed full time and none was on active military duty. Evaluation of the partner's drinking habits showed 50.3% drinking less than once per month, 35.1% drinking one to three days per month and 14.6% drinking one to two days per week. None of the women reported their partner drinking almost every day.

Emotionally and Physically Abused

- Among the estimated 2,603 Native American adult females with both emotional and physical abuse, 18.2% reported forced sexual activity, 10.7% reported being slapped or bit, 9.8% reported being choked and 9.4% reported being assaulted in some other way than was specified in the questions. Those with physical abuse only and no emotional abuse did not report this type of physical abuse.
- Table 1 contains the percent of women who responded to each of the questions regarding emotional or physical abuse. Similar to those reporting physical abuse only, the majority (73.0%) reported being pushed, grabbed or shoved, followed by 51.6% being hit or having something thrown at them that could hurt. As with those reporting emotional abuse only, the majority (75.5%) reported having a partner who insisted on knowing their whereabouts, followed by 63.2% having a partner that called them names and lowered their self-esteem.
- All of the women were 55 years of age or younger with the majority (53%) between the ages of 26 and 35; none was Hispanic; 40.6% had some college education but no degree, followed by 22.7% having a high school diploma and no college education; and 40.7% were full-time homemakers, followed by 35% employed full-time (see Table 2).
- As shown in Table 2, 81.3% reported having good physical health. More (40.6%) reported having poor psychological health than the emotional abuse only and physical abuse only groups, 12.1% and 0.0%, respectively. Twenty-one percent reported being pregnant in the 12 months prior to the interview.
- An estimated 17.5% of these respondents had a serious mental illness in the 30 days prior to the survey. This group had the highest estimate when

compared to those with emotional abuse only and physical abuse only, 6.8% and 0%, respectively.

- The eastern part of the state had the two highest percentages of reported abuse, Northeast with 23.4% and East Central with 24.6%, followed by the Oklahoma City Metro area with 20.2% (see Table 2).
- Most of the females reported alcohol use in the 18 months prior to the interview (91.9%), followed by marijuana use (18.8%), sedatives (7%), stimulants (7%) and hallucinogens (5%). Among those in need of treatment, more needed alcohol treatment than illicit drug treatment, 16.7% compared to 6.9% (see Table 3).
- As shown in Table 4, all of the partners of females reporting both emotional and physical abuse were 55 years of age or younger with the majority between the ages of 26 and 45 (64.7%); 73.2% were White, followed by 15.0% Native American and 11.8% Hispanic; 55.2% had a high school diploma but no college education; 87.5% were employed full time; none were on active military duty; and 38.2% drank one to three days per month, followed by 23.7% who drank less than once per month. When comparing the partners of Native American females emotionally and physically abused with those either emotionally abused only or physically abused only, more drank almost every day (12.2% vs. 5.8% and 0.0%, respectively).

Physically Abused

- In addition to the three mutually exclusive groups, responses from any female who reported physical abuse, regardless of emotional abuse, were analyzed for frequency of assault and medical need. Of the 3,116 who were estimated to have been the victim of some physical abuse, 603 (19.4%) were estimated to have been assaulted on more than one occasion during the 12 months prior to the interview.
- When asked if those physically abused had sought medical treatment in the past 12 months, an estimated 256 (8.2%) reported needing medical treatment. More than two-thirds, 70.3%, reported receiving treatment for their injuries.
- Among the estimated 180 who received medical treatment for their injuries, all were seen in a hospital emergency room and by a private physician.

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Table 1
Types of Abuse Among Adult Native American Females Married or in a Marriage-like Relationship
and Reporting Domestic Violence

Domestic Violence Among Adult Native American Females Married or in a Marriage-like Relationship	Emotional Abuse Only (No Reported Physical Abuse)		Physical Abuse Only (No Reported Emotional Abuse)		Emotional and Physical Abuse	
	N = 9,296*		N = 513*		N = 2,603*	
Type of Abuse	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
Pushed, grabbed or shoved	0	0.0	513	100.0	1,900	73.0
Hit or threw something that could hurt	0	0.0	76	14.8	1,344	51.6
Slapped or bit	0	0.0	0	0.0	278	10.7
Choked	0	0.0	0	0.0	255	9.8
Hit with something that could hurt	0	0.0	0	0.0	75	2.9
Kicked or hit with fist	0	0.0	76	14.8	180	6.9
Beat up	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Forced sexual activity	0	0.0	0	0.0	474	18.2
Used a gun or knife	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Assaulted in any other way	0	0.0	0	0.0	244	9.4
Restricts access to family/friends	1,788	19.2	0	0.0	1,270	48.8
Prevents getting a job	483	5.2	0	0.0	211	8.1
Insists on knowing whereabouts	7,117	76.6	0	0.0	1,965	75.5
Restricts looking at other men/clothing	1,548	16.7	0	0.0	774	29.7
Calls names and lowers self-esteem	1,881	20.2	0	0.0	1,645	63.2
Restricts access to finances	877	9.4	0	0.0	522	20.1
Makes you afraid	467	5.0	0	0.0	634	24.4

* Estimates weighted by sub-state planning area of residence, sex and race.

Table 2
Demographics of Adult Native American Females Married or in a Marriage-like Relationship
and Reporting Domestic Violence

Characteristics of Respondent	Emotional Abuse Only (No Reported Physical Abuse)		Physical Abuse Only (No Reported Emotional Abuse)		Emotional and Physical Abuse	
	N = 9,296*		N = 513*		N = 2,603*	
	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
Age						
18 to 25	1,465	15.8	180	35.1	615	23.6
26 to 35	2,192	23.6	106	20.7	1,379	53.0
36 to 45	1,588	17.1	227	44.2	311	11.9
46 to 55	1,626	17.5	0	0.0	299	11.5
56 to 65	706	7.6	0	0.0	0	0.0
66 and up	1,130	12.2	0	0.0	0	0.0
Missing	145	1.6	0	0.0	0	0.0
Refused	445	4.8	0	0.0	0	0.0
Ethnicity						
Hispanic	60	0.6	0	0.0	0	0.0
Education Level						
None or Less than High School	487	5.2	0	0	0	0.0
Some High School/Not Graduate	1,454	15.6	0	0	256	9.8
High School Graduate	3,931	42.3	256	49.9	590	22.7
Some College/No Degree	1,693	18.2	182	35.5	1,056	40.6
Associate Degree	600	6.5	75	14.7	0	0.0
Four Year Degree	860	9.2	0	0	437	16.8
Advanced Degree	272	2.9	0	0	265	10.2
Employment Status						
Employed Full-time	3,735	40.2	0	0.0	910	35.0
Employed - On Leave	131	1.4	0	0.0	0	0.0
Employed Part-time	769	8.3	151	29.5	203	7.8
Unemployed - Disabled	387	4.2	0	0.0	70	2.7
Unemployed - Full-time Homemaker	2,097	22.6	0	0.0	1,060	40.7
Unemployed - Looking	136	1.5	76	14.7	180	6.9
Unemployed - Not Looking	75	0.8	0	0.0	0	0.0
Unemployed - Other	506	5.4	286	55.8	180	6.9
Unemployed - Retired	1,458	15.7	0	0.0	0	0.0
Physical Health						
Poor	1,214	13.1	0	0.0	145	5.6
Fair	2,456	26.4	75	14.7	342	13.1
Good	5,626	60.5	438	85.3	2,116	81.3

Table 2 (Continued)

Characteristics of Respondent	Emotional Abuse Only (No Reported Physical Abuse)		Physical Abuse Only (No Reported Emotional Abuse)		Emotional and Physical Abuse	
	N = 9,296*		N = 513*		N =2,603*	
	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
Psychological Health						
Poor	1,122	12.1	0	0.0	1,057	40.6
Fair	3,356	36.1	362	70.5	852	32.7
Good	4,818	51.8	151	29.5	694	26.7
Pregnant in Past 12 Months						
No	6241.4	67.1	513.2	100.0	2061.9	79.2
Yes	644.61	6.9	0	0.0	541	20.8
Missing	2409.9	25.9	0	0.0	0	0.0
Residence by Regional Advisory Board Area						
Central	673	7.2	106	20.7	286	11.0
East Central	1,492	16.0	151	29.5	641	24.6
Northeast	2,277	24.5	0	0.0	608	23.4
Northwest**	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
OKC	1,607	17.3	180	35.1	527	20.2
Southeast	1,877	20.2	0	0.0	371	14.3
Southwest	442	4.8	0	0.0	0	0.0
Tulsa	929	10.0	76	14.7	169	6.5

* Estimates weighted by sub-state planning area of residence, sex and race.

** Insufficient sample size to report estimates.

Table 3
Substance Use and Substance Abuse Treatment Need among Native American Adult Females
Married or in a Marriage-like Relationship and Reporting Domestic Violence

Substance Use and Treatment Need	Emotional Abuse Only (No Reported Physical Abuse)		Physical Abuse Only (No Reported Emotional Abuse)		Emotional and Physical Abuse	
	N = 9,296*		N = 513*		N =2,603*	
	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
Substance Used in 18 Months Prior to Survey						
Alcohol	4,921	52.9	362	70.6	2,392	91.9
Marijuana	136	1.5	0	0.0	489	18.8
Cocaine	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Hallucinogens	0	0.0	0	0.0	127	4.9
Heroin	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Inhalants	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Sedatives	0	0.0	0	0.0	180	6.9
Stimulants	0	0.0	0	0.0	180	6.9
Type of Treatment Need						
Alcohol	873	9.4	0	0.0	435	16.7
Illicit Drug	0	0.0	0	0.0	180	6.9
Alcohol and/or Illicit Drug	873	9.4	0	0.0	435	16.7

* Estimates weighted by sub-state planning area of residence, sex and race.

Table 4
Characteristics of the Partner of Native American Adult Females Married
or in a Marriage-like Relationship and Reporting Domestic Violence

Partner's Characteristics	Emotional Abuse Only (No Reported Physical Abuse)		Physical Abuse Only (No Reported Emotional Abuse)		Emotional and Physical Abuse	
	N = 9,296		N = 513		N =2,603	
	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
Age						
18 to 25	952	10.2	180	35.1	435	16.7
26 to 35	1,665	17.9	182	35.5	891	34.2
36 to 45	2,520	27.1	75	14.6	793	30.5
46 to 55	1,326	14.3	76	14.8	305	11.7
56 to 65	800	8.6	0	0.0	0	0.0
66 and up	1,664	17.9	0	0.0	0	0.0
Missing	70	0.8	0	0.0	0	0.0
Refused	300	3.2	0	0.0	180	6.9
Race						
White,non-Hispanic	6,262	67.4	333	64.9	1,906	73.2
African American	70	0.8	0	0.0	0	0.0
Native American	2,306	24.8	180	35.1	390	15.0
Asian	180	1.9	0	0.0	0	0.0
Hispanic	288	3.1	0	0.0	307	11.8
Other	121	1.3	0	0.0	0	0.0
Don't Know	70	0.8	0	0.0	0	0.0
Education Level						
None or Less than High School	970	10.43	0	0.0	75	2.9
Some High School/Not Grad	1,008	10.84	75	14.6	378	14.5
High School Grad	4,277	46.01	182	35.5	1,438	55.2
Some College/No Degree	1,258	13.53	76	14.8	235	9.0
Associate Degree	395	4.25	180	35.1	169	6.5
Four Year Degree	851	9.15	0	0.0	307	11.8
Advanced Degree	281	3.02	0	0.0	0	0.0
Don't Know	257	2.76	0	0.0	0	0.0
Employment Status						
Employed Full-time	6,135	66.00	362	70.6	2,278	87.5
Employed Part-time	303	3.26	75	14.6	250	9.6
Unemployed-Looking	203	2.18	76	14.8	0	0.0
Unemployed-Not Looking	435	4.68	0	0.0	75	2.9
Retired	2,220	23.88	0	0.0	0	0.0

Table 4 (Continued)

Partner's Characteristics	Emotional Abuse Only (No Reported Physical Abuse)		Physical Abuse Only (No Reported Emotional Abuse)		Emotional and Physical Abuse	
	N = 9,296		N = 513		N =2,603	
	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
Military Status						
No	9,164	98.58	513	100.0	2,603	100.0
Yes	131	1.41	0	0.0	0	0.0
Drinking Habits						
Almost Every Day	538	5.8	0	0.0	318	12.2
3-4 Days/Week	75	0.8	0	0.0	182	7.0
1-2 Days/Week	770	8.3	75	14.6	490	18.8
1-3 Days/Month	1,353	14.6	180	35.1	995	38.2
Less than 1/Month	5,884	63.3	258	50.3	618	23.7
Don't Know	676	7.3	0	0.0	0	0.0

* Estimates weighted by sub-state planning area of residence, sex and race.