

## **The most serious outcome: Domestic homicide**

Intimate femicide, the killing of a woman by an intimate partner, is the leading cause of female murder in South Africa. In 2016 the World Health Organization indicated South Africa had the fourth-highest female interpersonal violence death rate out of the 183 countries, behind only Honduras, Jamaica and Lesotho.

Women killed as a result of domestic violence in South Africa occurs at more than double the global rate. These deaths are linked to both the high prevalence of domestic violence in South Africa, and very high rates of all forms of homicide.

As many as five women are killed each week by an intimate partner. Women most likely to die from domestic homicide are 14 to 44 years of age and women of color.