

Global Initiative for Boys & Men

Report on:



The Need for a Colorado Commission on the Status of Boys & Men



GLOBAL INITIATIVE FOR
BOYS & MEN

Supporting boys and men and the
women who love them



Our Mission

To create a Colorado Commission on the Status of Boys & Men in 2022. The commission will inform the state legislature on the status of boys and men in a number of measurable areas with the intention of directing policy actions toward positive outcomes.

Our Values

As Colorado continues to move toward inclusion and equity, it's important the state create commissions that address the needs of our state's boys and men as part of a comprehensive state agenda. In doing so, Coloradans will better understand the challenges, outcomes, and areas of growth needed for all Coloradans.

A Bipartisan Issue

Boys and men face challenges that need to be brought to the attention of Coloradans and the state legislature, so boys and men are able to contribute to society according to their full potential.

Given the rising challenges boys and men face in a number of measurable areas over the past several decades, the time has come to support a Colorado Commission on the Status of Boys & Men that would help fulfill the state's promise to support and protect all its citizens.

Our Vision

Every boy and man is healthy, safe, prosperous, and encouraged to achieve his full potential.

Critical Issues Facing Boys and Men in Colorado



A Colorado Commission on the Status of Boys and Men must be recognized to address the challenges boys and men face in Colorado.

This past year has been particularly difficult for boys and men, as the pandemic has exacerbated areas where boys and men have already fallen behind and are experiencing lifetime hardships. Boys and men have been disproportionately impacted prior to the COVID-19 pandemic in a number of areas and the pandemic has certainly worsened the long neglected status of boys and men. Coloradans have seen disparate outcomes for boys and men in six key areas over several decades.



**Physical and Mental
Health**



Education



**Jobs, Careers, and
Financial Health**



**Fatherhood, Family,
and Relationships**



**Criminal Justice
System and Court
Systems**



**Male Narrative in the
Public Discourse**

Physical and Mental Health

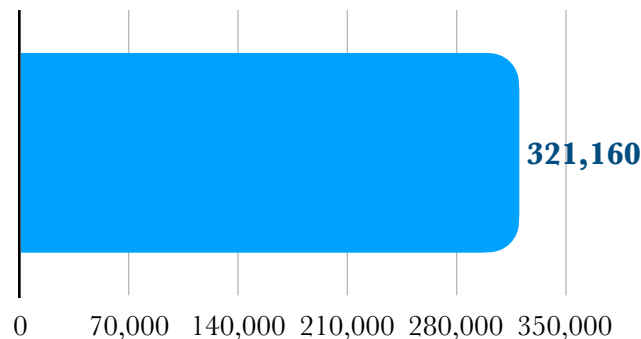
A Colorado Commission on the Status of Boys and Men must ensure healthier lives for Colorado's boys and men by addressing growing disparities in health equity, inclusion, and outcomes. Data on healthcare access, affordability, and quality of care in CO and nationally shows boys and men are further behind. And the COVID pandemic has only worsened the problem.

15.3%

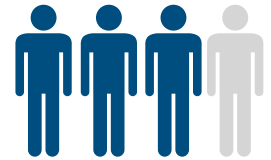
CO Uninsured

- Males make up the majority of Colorado's uninsured population. 15.3% of males in Colorado are without health insurance.
- GIBM estimates there are at least 250,000 men without health insurance in Colorado.
- Males account for 60% of Colorado's uninsured.

Male Cancer Deaths in U.S. 2020



Males are 53% of estimated cancer deaths, including 33,330 deaths from **prostate cancer** in 2020 U.S. according to the American Cancer Society.



Almost **3 in 4** men (73.3%) are considered overweight or obese.



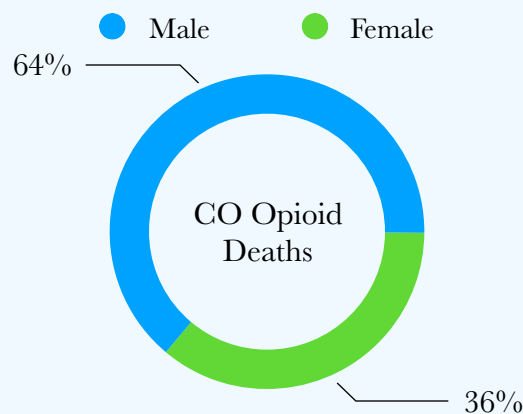
Males are 56.3% of Colorado Covid Deaths as of Oct. 16, 2021, but make up a smaller percentage of population.

77%

Suicide & CO

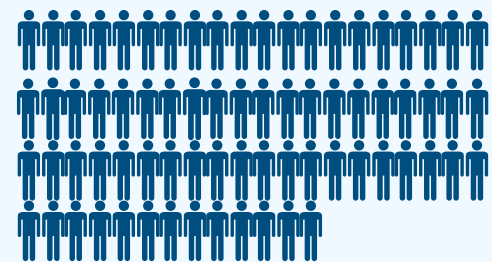
- **Males accounted for 77% suicide death in Colorado** from 2010 to 2020 according to data from the Colorado Center for Health & Environmental Data. Suicide and opioid deaths are a systemic problem for our nation's sons.

A 10-year analysis of CO opioid deaths from the National Center of Health Statistics and Kaiser Family Foundation **identified opioid deaths as a serious male problem.** Males accounted for 64% of opioid deaths in 2019, an increase of 5% from 2010 when males accounted for 59% of opioid deaths. Boys and men's inequities are compounded due to lack of services. The AMA has suggested the pandemic will make 2020-2021 worse.



Suicide and Opioid Deaths

73%

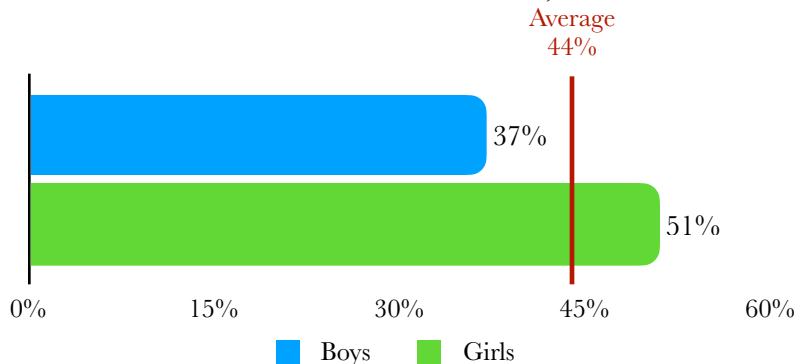


535,00 boys and men in the U.S. have lost their lives to suicide and opioid deaths from 2009 to 2018.

K-12 and Higher Education

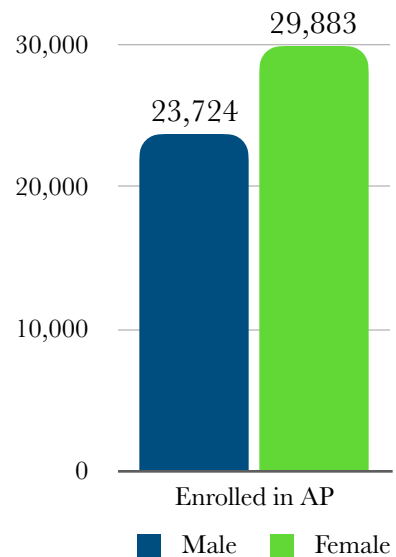
Boys of all races in Colorado do worse than their female counterparts of the same race in meeting comparable outcomes in K-12 and higher education. Colorado and the nation have not addressed the systemic, male inequities in education that show a widening Boy Gender-Gap in educational outcomes.

Percent of Students Meeting or Exceeding Standard on the CO Measure of Academic Success Data, 2016 to 2019

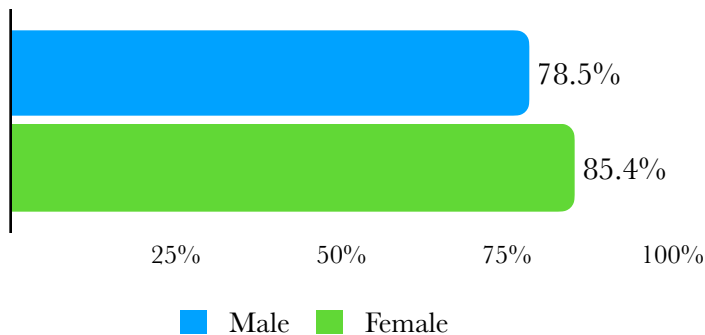


Global Initiative for Boys and Men reviewed the results of over 1.5 million test scores of Colorado students from 2016 to 2019. Boys have been **below the average** every year in meeting and/or exceeding standards.

CO HS students enrolled in at least one AP course 2017-18



Colorado Four-year High School Graduation Rate (2020)

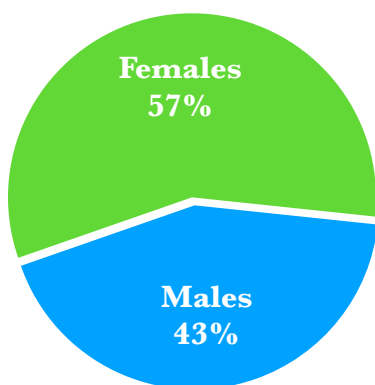


Read Now Colorado

Read Now Colorado is an excellent state program to help young students learn to read. This is especially important for boys, because boys who are not reading at grade level by 3rd grade are more likely to drop out.

Despite this great program and the work of teachers across the state, boys' literacy skills are behind at every grade level.

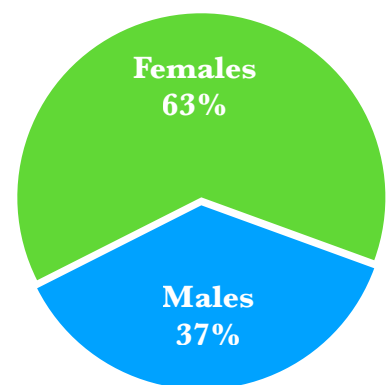
U.S. Bachelor Degrees Conferred by Postsecondary Institutions 2006 to 2017



Male Gender-Gap in College

- Males are underfunded in Pell Grants (free aid from Fed. Govt.) by \$6.4 billion annually.
- Males are underrepresented in undergraduate programs by more than 2 million every year and have been since 2003.
- Male were underrepresented in undergraduate programs by 1 to 2 million every year from 1988 to 2003.

U.S. Pell Grant Funding by Sex for Years 2003-04 and 2015-16



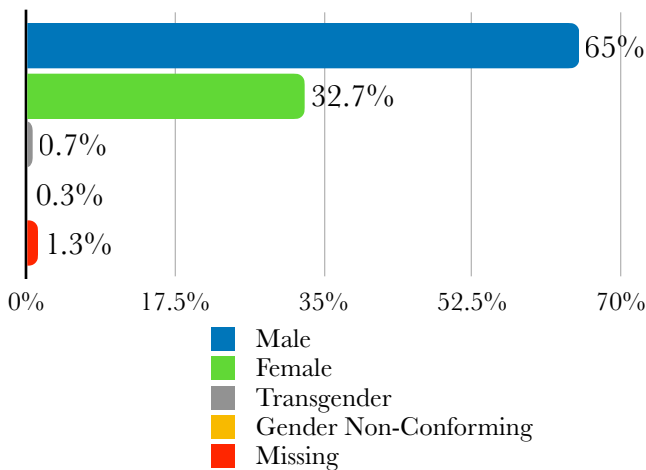
Jobs, Careers, and Financial Health

Jobs, Careers, and Health addresses outcomes of Coloradans and the nation. Encouraging boys and men to pursue equity in professions where males are under-represented while addressing outcomes for boys, men, and families is essential.

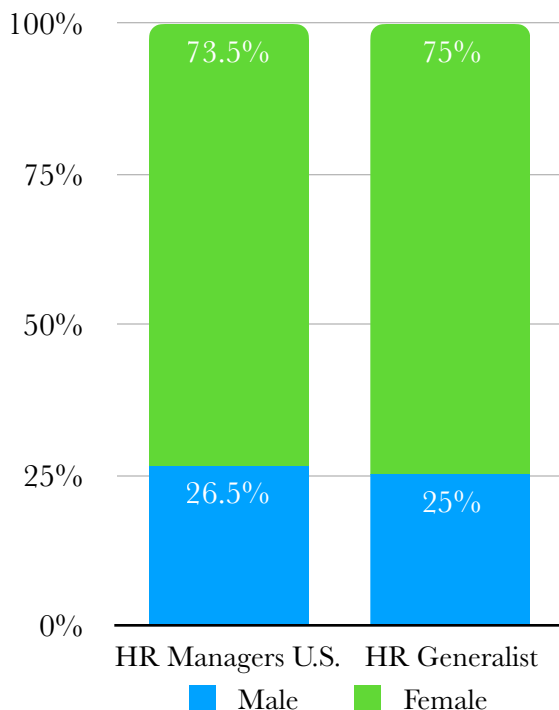


- **Male Unemployment in Colorado:** Male unemployment exceeded that of females for the 10 years of 2008-2018. Male Coloradans are more likely to be unemployed in 2021.
- **Male Unemployment in the U.S.** for those 20 and over rose to more than 2.3 million from January 2020 to January 2021 during COVID.

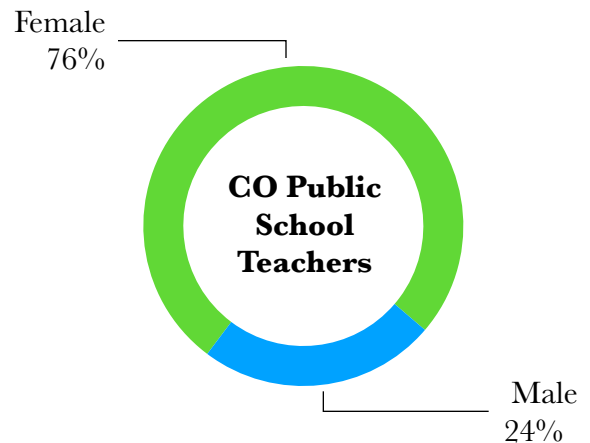
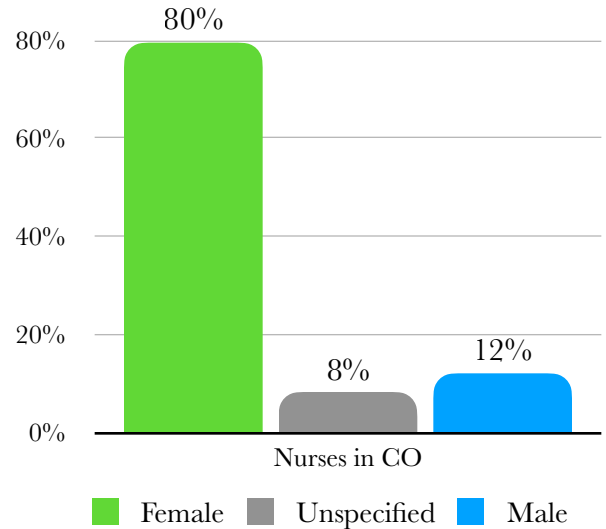
Colorado Homeless in 2019



Human Resources Managers and Generalist in 2020

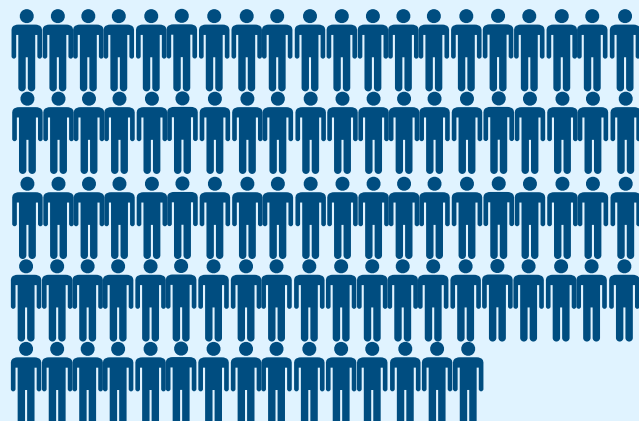


Colorado Nursing Profession



95%

CO Fatal Occupational Injuries



Males are 95% of fatal occupational injuries in CO the US Bureau of Labor Statistics (2019).

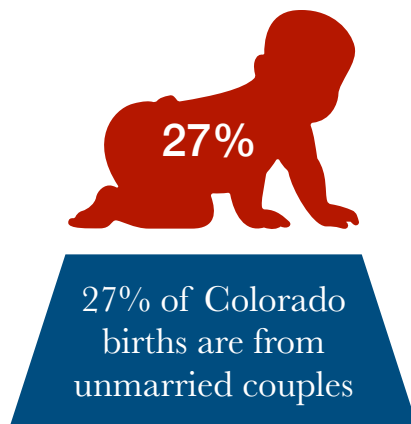
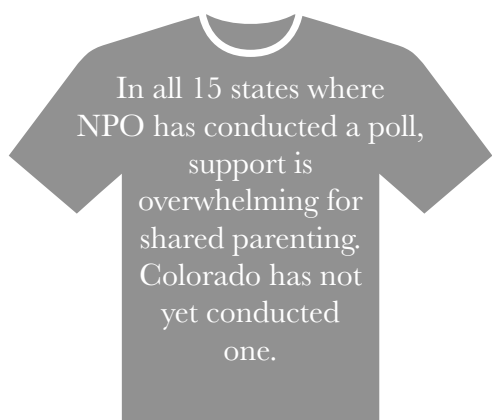
Fatherhood, Family, and Relationships

Fatherhood, family, and relationships address issues that affect children, adults, mothers, fathers, grandparents, and others in a number of measurable areas. An awareness of issues impacting boys and men must look at parental rights, domestic violence, sexual assault, and other concerns if we hope to find true equity and equality for all Coloradans.

Parental Rights

- Colorado has no statutory preference for, or presumption of, shared parenting (joint legal custody and shared physical custody) for temporary or final orders.
- Colorado statutes do not explicitly provide for shared parenting during temporary orders.

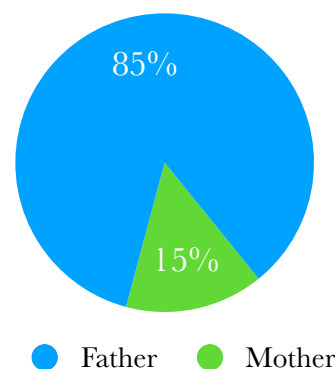
-National Parents Organization, 2019 Shared Parenting Report



Dads Matter

Fathers' involvement in school is associated with higher likelihood of a student getting A's, and lower chance of repeating a grade, as well as many other positive outcomes.

Dads are 85% of Child Support Payers in the US

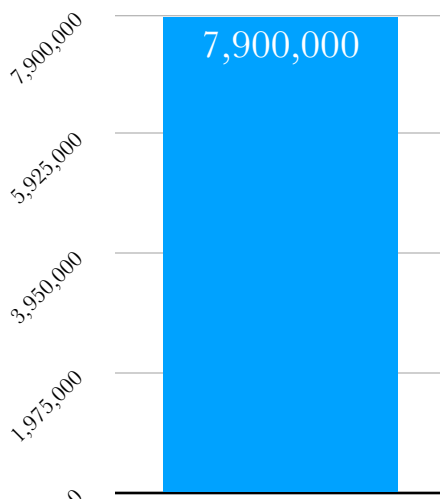


According to the U.S. Census Bureau:
Dads also pay more: \$5,450 annually compared to \$3,500.

Survivors of Sexual Violence

“Sexual violence against men and boys is a significant problem.... It is one that has largely been neglected in research. Rape and other forms of sexual coercion directed against men and boys take place in the home, the workplace, schools, on the streets, in the military and during war, as well as in prisons and police custody”
(World Health Organization).

At least 7.9 million boys and men are survivors of sexual violence in U.S.



16 million Male Victims of Domestic Violence

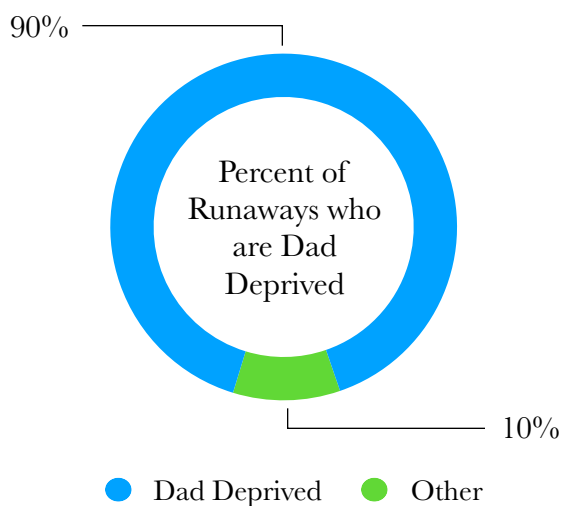


According to the CDC, nearly 16 million U.S. men have been victims of intimate partner violence (IPV).

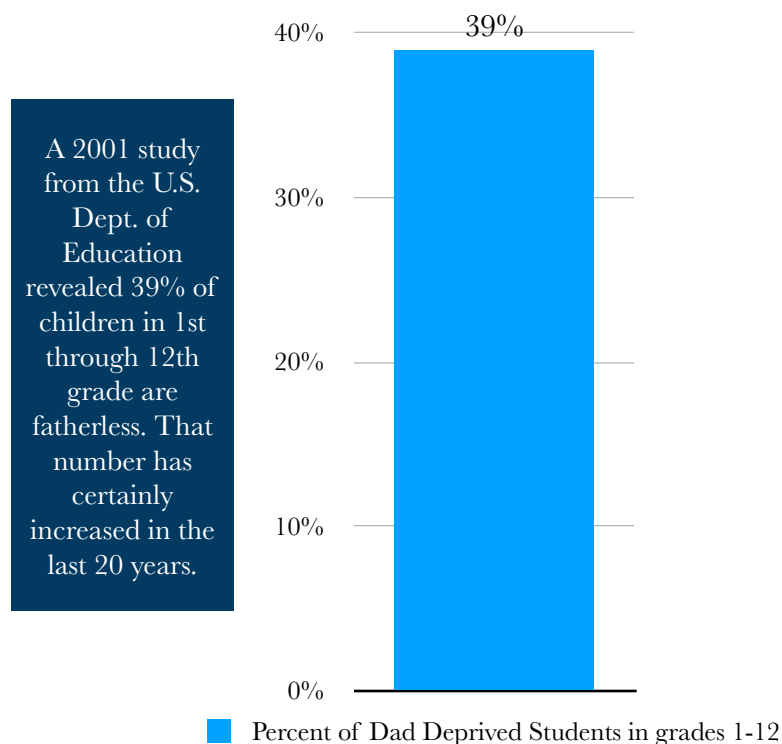
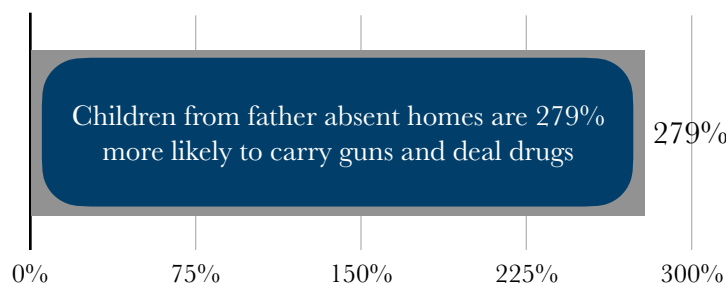
Dad deprived children suffer in a number of measurable areas. Children without fathers are more likely to live in poverty, commit crime, struggle and fail in school, run away from home, and suffer from adverse childhood experiences that lead to drug addiction, suicide, homelessness and other social ills.



- An estimated 24.7 million children live without a biological father.
- 47% of dad deprived dads are more likely to live in poverty



Guns and Drugs with Dad Deprived Children



Family Court

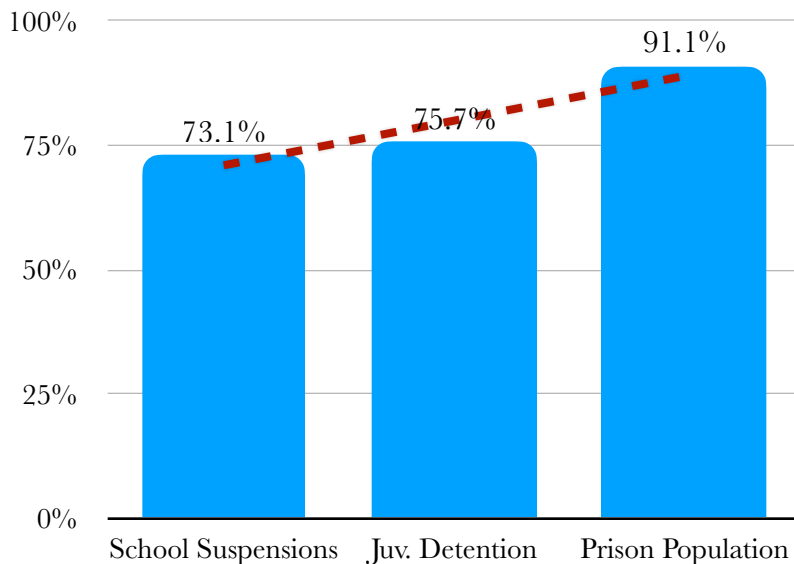


According to an Orange County CA report, 93% of post-divorce payers are male. Half of payers end up in poverty. CO needs a similar report.

Criminal Justice and Court Systems

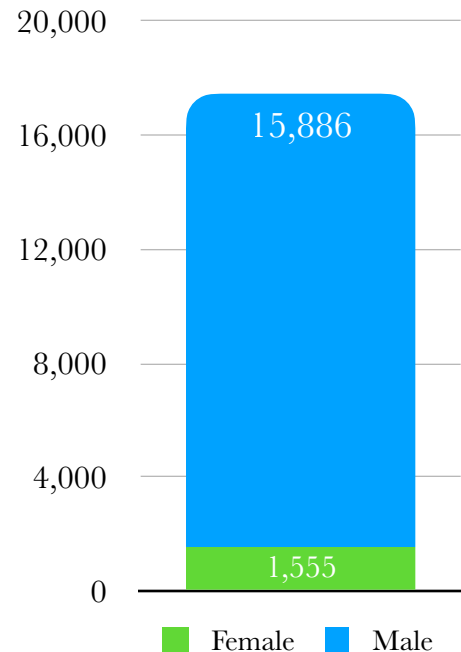
The school to prison pipeline has been a demonstrably male problem at the state and national level. Colorado shows a clear linear path in the treatment of boys in K-12 education, juvenile court, and prison populations. The school to prison pipeline is a disturbing trend associated with a poor education; a history of poverty, abuse, and neglect; an isolation from society; a lack of access to counseling and other services; and a lack of father involvement

CO School to Prison Pipeline for Boys 2019-20

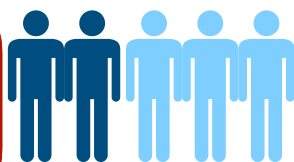


There is a linear path in the way we punish our boys that leads to greater incarceration rates in Colorado. Boys account for 73% of school suspensions and 76% of juvenile detentions. Men are 91% of the incarcerated.

Colorado Prison Population in 2020

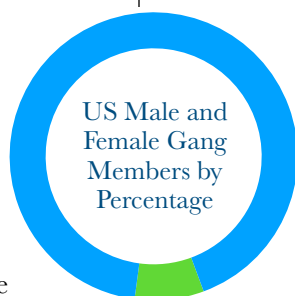


2 of 5 gang members are under 18 years of age



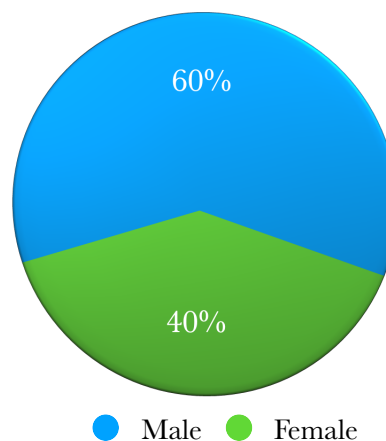
92%

Male
Female



8%

Missing Persons in United States, 2017



Male Female

As of October 26, 2021, there are 339 active missing persons cases and 1,154 resolved cases in Colorado.

Family Courts



According to an Orange County CA report, 93% of post-divorce payers are male. Half of payers end up in poverty. CO needs a similar report.

Male Narrative in the Public Discourse

The status of boys and men is practically absent from Colorado policy and the Colorado narrative. The legislature has long ignored the growing, downward trends of boys and men who are unable to contribute to society according to their full potential. We believe a Colorado Commission on the Status of Boys & Men would help provide the legislature with essential information that drives policy and provides all boys and men in Colorado with equal opportunities and protections.

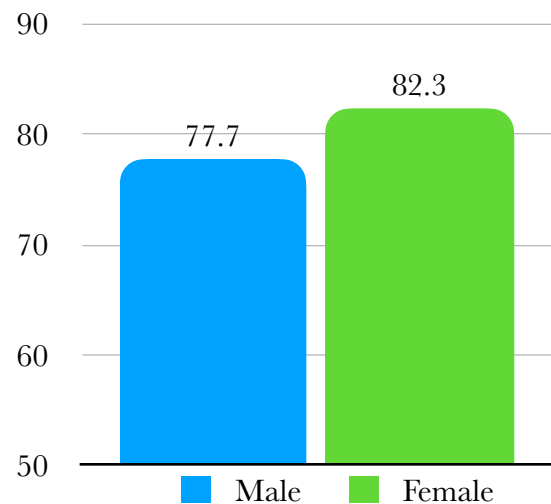


Women's health



Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment has a section on Women's Health, but none on Men's Health, despite the fact that men's life expectancy is 4.6 years less in the state and men are 50% more likely to be uninsured.

Life Expectancy by Sex, Colorado, for someone born in 2018



COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

Commission on Women and Gender Equity

Colorado State has a Commission for Women and Gender Equity, despite that fact that 54% of students are female, and only 46% are male.



Equity and inclusion programs, such as the Denver Women's Commission, largely ignore outcomes for boys and men by bringing far less attention and government services to the challenges boys and men face.



There is no menshelters.org, despite the fact that men make up 69% of the unsheltered homeless population. womenshelters.org lists 23 Colorado shelters, all of which accept women but only six accept men.



Domestic Violence Services for men remain largely unsupported.

References

Physical and Mental Health

- “State Health Facts: Health Insurance Coverage of Men 19-64 (CPS).” *Kaiser Family Foundation*. Accessed 11 October 2021. <https://www.kff.org/other/state-indicator/health-insurance-coverage-of-men-19-64-cps/?currentTimeframe=0&selectedRows=%7B%22states%22:%7B%22colorado%22:%7B%22D%7D%7D&sortModel=%7B%22colId%22:%22Location%22,%22sort%22:%22asc%22%7D>
- “Colorado Health Access Survey.” *The Colorado Health Institute*. Accessed 10 October 2021. https://www.coloradohealthinstitute.org/sites/default/files/migrated/postfiles/CHAS/CHAS_Spotlight_Remaining_Uninsured.pdf
- National Center for Health Statistics, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention*. Accessed 20 July 2021. <https://www.cancer.org/content/dam/cancer-org/research/cancer-facts-and-statistics/annual-cancer-facts-and-figures/2020/estimated-number-of-new-cancer-cases-and-deaths-by-sex-2020.pdf>
- NCHS, National Vital Statistics System, Mortality (NVSS-M)*. Accessed 20 June 2021. <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/databriefs/db362-tables-508.pdf#2>
- “Opioid Overdose Deaths by Sex.” *Kaiser Family Foundation analysis of Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Center for Health Statistics*. Accessed 20 October 2020. <https://www.kff.org/other/state-indicator/opioid-overdose-deaths-by-sex/?currentTimeframe=0&sortModel=%7B%22colId%22:%22Location%22,%22sort%22:%22asc%22%7D>
- “Increase in Suicide Mortality in the United States.” *NCHS, National Vital Statistics System, Mortality (NVSS-M) 1999-2018*. Accessed 20 October 2020. <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/databriefs/db362-tables-508.pdf#1>
- “Overweight and Obesity Statistics.” *U.S. Department of Health and Human Services*. Accessed August 1, 2021. <https://www.niddk.nih.gov/health-information/health-statistics/overweight-obesity>
- “Provisional COVID-19 Deaths by Sex and Age” Oaccesssed 21 October 2021 from <https://data.cdc.gov/NCHS/Provisional-COVID-19-Deaths-by-Sex-and-Age/9bhg-hcku>
- “Suicides in Colorado.” Accessed October 27, 2021 from https://cohealthviz.dphe.state.co.us/t/HSEBPublic/views/CoVDRS_12_1_17/Story1?embed=y&:showAppBanner=false&:showShareOptions=true&:display_count=no&:showVizHome=no#4

Education

- “Colorado eighth-graders continue to outperform other states on biennial NAEP test.” Accessed October 21, 2021 from <https://www.cde.state.co.us/communications/20180410naep>
- “High School Coursetaking.” Accessed October 26, 2021 from <https://nces.ed.gov/programs/coe/indicator/cnc>
- “Graduation Rate 19-20” Accessed October 21, 2021 from <https://www.cde.state.co.us/code/graduationrate1920>
- “Fall Enrollment in Colleges and Universities.” *U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics*. February 2016. Accessed: July 2021. https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d15/tables/dt15_303.70.asp?current=yes

“Earned Degrees Conferred.” *U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics*. https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d18/tables/dt18_318.10.asp

“Trends in Pell Grant Receipts and the Characteristics of Pell Grant Recipients: Selected Years 2003-04 to 2015-16.” *U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Educational Statistics*. September 2019. Accessed July 2021. <https://nces.ed.gov/pubs2019/2019487.pdf>

“Read Now Colorado.” Accessed October 26, 2021 from <https://readnowcolorado.org/home/>

Jobs, Careers, and Financial Health

“Women’s Unemployment Rate Has Been Lower Than Men’s Over the Past Decade” (2020) p. 39. Accessed October 24, 2021 from: https://cclponline.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/SWCO_Final_122820_SM.pdf

“Labor Force Statistics from the Current Population Survey.” Accessed October 24, 2021 from <https://www.bls.gov/web/empsit/cpseea10.htm>

Kullman, Sean. “Men Lost More Jobs from 2020 to 2021.” *Global Initiative for Boys & Men*. February 14, 2021. <https://www.gibm.us/news/men-lost-more-jobs-from-2020-to-2021>

“A Snapshot of Homelessness in the Colorado Balance of State Continuum of Care.” Accessed October 25, 2021 from <https://www.coloradocoalition.org/sites/default/files/2019-06/2019%20CO%20BOS%20CoC%20PIT%20Final%20Report.pdf>

“Colorado Department of Education: 2019-2020 Teachers By Ethnicity and Gender.” Accessed October 23, 2021 from: <https://www.cde.state.co.us/cdereval/2019-20countofteachersbydistrictethnicityandgenderpdf>

“Gender Ratio of Nurses Across 50 States.” *Becker’s Hospital Review*. Accessed: August 2021. <https://www.beckershospitalreview.com/hr/gender-ratio-of-nurses-across-50-states.html>

“Fatal Occupational Injuries.” *State of California, Department of Industrial Relations*. April 28, 2021. Accessed August 2021. https://www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/cfoi/CFOI_2019/Fatalities-Report-2013-2019.pdf

“Employment status of the civilian population by sex and age.” *U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics*. Accessed: February 2021. <https://www.bls.gov/news.release/empsit.t01.htm>

“Median weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by detailed occupation and sex.” *U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics*. Accessed: August 2021. <https://www.bls.gov/cps/cpsaat39.pdf>

Fatherhood, Family, and Relationships

“Dads Represent 85% Of Child Support Providers, Pay More Than Female Payers.” Accessed October 27, 2021 from: <https://dadsdivorce.com/articles/dads-represent-85-of-child-support-providers-pay-more-than-female-payers/>

“Child Maltreatment 2018.” *U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Administration for Children and Families Administration on Children, Youth and Families Children’s Bureau*. Accessed August 2021. <https://acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/cb/cm2018.pdf>

“Percent of Babies Born to Unmarried Mothers by State” *Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: National Center for Health Statistics*. Accessed August 2021. <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/pressroom/sosmap/unmarried/unmarried.htm>

“Fathers’ and Mothers’ Involvement in Their Children’s Schools by Family Type and Resident Status,” *NCES* 2001. Accessed: October 27, 2021. <https://nces.ed.gov/pubs2001/2001032.pdf>

- “Poverty, Dropouts, Pregnancy, Suicide: What The Numbers Say About Fatherless Kids.” *NPR KQED*. 18 June 2018. Accessed Nov., 8 2021. <https://www.npr.org/sections/ed/2017/06/18/533062607/poverty-dropouts-pregnancy-suicide-what-the-numbers-say-about-fatherless-kids>
- “Estimating Poverty in the Child Support Program.” *Orange County Department of Child Support Services*. Retrieved Oct. 25, 2021 from: [Orange County Department of Child Support Services](https://www.ocdss.org/child-support-services)
- “Intimate Partner Violence Surveillance.” *Centers for Disease Control*. Accessed: September 2021. <https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/ipv/intimatepartnerviolence.pdf>
- “World Report on Violence and Health.” *World Health Organization*. Accessed: July 2021. https://www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/violence/global_campaign/en/chap6.pdf
- “Shared Parenting Polling.” *National Parents Organization*. January 2021. Accessed October 27, 2021 from: <https://www.sharedparenting.org/shared-parenting-polling>
- “Shared Parenting Report.” *National Parents Organization*. Accessed October 27, 2021 from <https://www.sharedparenting.org/2019-shared-parenting-report>
- “National Sexual Violence Resource Center: NISVS 2015 Data Brief - Sexual Violence by any Perpetrator.” Accessed October 27, 2021. <https://www.nsvrc.org/statistics/statistics-depth>
- “Father Absence, Father Deficit, Father Hunger.” *Psychology Today: The vital importance of paternal presence in children’s lives*. Accessed: November 5, 2021. <https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/co-parenting-after-divorce/201205/father-absence-father-deficit-father-hunger>
- National Fatherhood Initiative*. Accessed Nov. 5, 2021. <https://www.fatherhood.org/father-absence-statistic>

Criminal Justice System and Court Systems

- “2020-2021 Discipline by Gender.” *Colorado Department of Education*. Accessed October 21, 2021 from <https://www.cde.state.co.us/cdereval/disciplinebygender2020-2021sy>
- “Crime & Justice in Colorado / 2009-2019.” *Colorado Department of Public Safety*. Accessed October 26, 2021 from: https://cdpsdocs.state.co.us/ors/Docs/Reports/2020_CJ09-19.pdf
- “Colorado Division of Criminal Justice Adult and Juvenile Correctional Populations Forecasts.” *Colorado Department of Public Safety*. Accessed October 26, 2021 from: <https://cdpsdocs.state.co.us/ors/data/PPP/2021-PPP.pdf>
- “National Youth Gang Survey Analysis: Demographic Age of Gang Members.” *U.S. Department of Justice: Office of Justice Programs*. Accessed June 2021. <https://nationalgangcenter.ojp.gov/survey-analysis/demographics#anchorage>
- “National Youth Gang Survey Analysis: Demographic Gender of Gang Members.” *U.S. Department of Justice: Office of Justice Programs*. Accessed June 2021. <https://nationalgangcenter.ojp.gov/survey-analysis/demographics#anchorgender>
- “National Youth Gang Survey Analysis: Demographic Age of Gang Members by Area Type.” *U.S. Department of Justice: Office of Justice Programs*. Accessed June 2021. <https://nationalgangcenter.ojp.gov/survey-analysis/demographics#anchoragebyareatype>
- “The Success of NamUs.” *National Missing and Unidentified Persons System (NamUs)*. Accessed: October 27, 2021. <https://namus.nij.ojp.gov/>

Male Narrative in the Public Discourse

“Women’s Health.” *Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment*. Accessed October 21, 2021 from: <https://cdphe.colorado.gov/health/prevention-and-wellness/womens-health>

“Colorado Health Access Survey.” *The Colorado Health Institute*. Accessed 10 October 2021. https://www.coloradohealthinstitute.org/sites/default/files/migrated/postfiles/CHAS/CHAS_Spotlight_Remaining_Uninsured.pdf

“National Vital Statistics Reports.” March 11, 2021. *Centers for Disease Control*. Accessed October 21, 2021 from: <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr70/nvsr70-1-508.pdf>

“Commission on Women and Gender Equity (CWGE).” Colorado State University. Accessed October 25, 2021 from: <https://cwge.colostate.edu/>

“Women’s Commission.” *City of Denver*. Accessed October 27, 2021 from: <https://www.denvergov.org/Government/Agencies-Departments-Offices/Human-Rights-Community-Partnerships/Commissions/Womens-Commission>

“Colorado Women’s Shelter.” Women’s Shelters. Accessed October 24, 2021 from: <https://www.womenshelters.org/sta/colorado>

Acknowledgements

Global Initiative for Boy and Men thanks the following organizations for assistance in compiling data for this report:

- Colorado Coalition for Boys and Men
- NPO - National Parents Organization