

At the Commission's second meeting, BYU researchers Assistant Professors [Emily Leslie](#) and [Riley Wilson](#), presented their findings on trends in domestic violence calls for service to police. The study, which focused on data from 14 American cities, found:

- The COVID-19 pandemic led to a 9.7% increase in domestic violence calls for service during March and April, starting before state-level stay-at-home mandates began. Applied nationally, this finding means there were approximately 1,330 more domestic violence calls for service per day across the U.S. during the time period.
- The increase was evident across a broad range of demographic and socioeconomic groups.
- Households without a recent history of domestic violence calls for service were a driving factor behind the increase in domestic violence calls.
- Pervasive economic stress as well as disrupted or strained routines may have played a role in the increase, but the data did not enable researchers to draw firm conclusions.

[Read the Summary brief](#)