

# EFFECTS OF MASS VIOLENCE ON COMMUNITIES:

Findings from Parkland, El Paso, and Pittsburgh

Following mass violence incidents (MVIs) in Parkland (FL), El Paso (TX), and Pittsburgh (PA), a sample of 2078 adults from these communities completed a needs assessment survey to identify the prevalence of PTSD and depression. Beyond PTSD and depressive symptoms, additional questions assessed the degree of MVI exposure, social support, impact and history of prior physical or sexual assault, fear of subsequent violent crime and MVIs, and the adaptive and maladaptive strategies employed by respondents.

Based on a representative sample of 2,078 adults, rates of PTSD were...

**5.5X**

HIGHER IN EL PASO (TX)

**4X**

HIGHER IN PARKLAND (FL)

**5.3X**

HIGHER IN PITTSBURGH (PA)

Compared to the national average (4.7%)

**4 in 10**

EL PASO RESIDENTS WITH A PRIOR PHYSICAL OR SEXUAL ASSAULT HAD PTSD

MORE THAN  
**1 in 4**

RESIDENTS IN PARKLAND AND PITTSBURGH WITH EXPOSURE TO PRIOR ASSAULT HAD PTSD

Social support plays a critical role in one's adaptation to an MVI

LESS THAN

**50%**

OF RESPONDENTS AT ALL SITES REPORTED HIGH LEVELS OF SOCIAL SUPPORT



THOSE WITH LOW SOCIAL SUPPORT AT SIGNIFICANTLY GREATER RISK FOR PTSD AND DEPRESSION



THOSE WITH HIGH SOCIAL SUPPORT & NO PRIOR ASSAULT HISTORY HAS LOWER RISK FOR PTSD AND DEPRESSION

**12-20%**

OF ADULTS WITH LOW SOCIAL SUPPORT AND PRIOR ASSAULT EXPOSURE HAD PTSD



**NMVVRC**

Readiness · Response · Resilience