

Sexual Assault Statistics

Approximately 1.9 million adult Texans (1,479,912 female and 372,394 male) of 12.6% of Texans have been sexually assaulted at some time in their lifetime.¹

One in 5 Texas women and 1 in 20 Texas men have been the victims of sexual assault.²

Only 18% of victims report their assault to law enforcement. This includes 20% of females and 12% of males.³

In Texas, only 1 in 10 sexual assault survivors seek medical treatment.⁴

Almost one quarter of all sexual assaults involve some other kind of violence.⁵

Most female victims are assaulted by a man they know. Usually this man is a relative other than the victim's spouse, ex-spouse, or live-in partner, or another man with whom they have been or are acquainted.⁶

In 2003, Texans listed sexual assault among their top crime concerns – before gang violence and homicide.⁷

Less than one-third of Texas adults and teens believe they are “at risk” for sexual assault.⁸

Texans believe their state takes sexual assault and child sex abuse seriously, but would like to see more done to address the issues.⁹

More than a quarter of Texas teens and adults are very misinformed about the parameters of sexual assault.¹⁰

Texas teenagers do not see themselves as “at risk” for sexual Assault, yet they are among the most likely to know a victim of sexual assault.¹¹

In 2002, forcible rapes reported to Texas law enforcement agencies increased 4.3% to 8,541 over the reported numbers of 8,191 in 2001.¹²

¹ Institute on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, The University of Texas at Austin, August 2003. *A Health Survey of Texans: A Focus on Sexual Assault.*

² Ibid.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ KRC Research, 2002. *Findings from a Statewide Research Program.*

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ Ibid.

¹¹ Ibid.

In 2002, there were an estimated 95,136 forcible rapes in the United States, an increase of 4.7% when compared to the 2001 estimate.¹³

6% of sexual assault victims faced an armed offender.¹⁴

Convicted rape and sexual assault offenders serving time in State prisons report that two-thirds of their victims were under the age of 18. Nearly 4 in 10 imprisoned violent sexual offenders said their victims were aged 12 or younger.¹⁵

In 90% of the rapes of children less than 12 years old, the child knew the rapist. Among rape victims 18 to 29 years old, two-thirds had a prior relationship with the rapist.¹⁶

Teens 16 to 19 were three and one half times more likely than the general population to be victims of rape, attempted rape or sexual assault.¹⁷

Adolescents ages 12 to 17 are more likely to be sexually assaulted by young adults ages 18 to 24. Children under 12 are more likely to be sexually assaulted by persons under the age of 18.¹⁸

About 234,000 convicted sex offenders are under the care, custody, or control of corrections agencies on an average day. Nearly 60% are under conditional supervision in the community.¹⁹

Four out of five students (81%), both males and females, report experiencing sexual harassment.²⁰

The number of boys reporting harassment increased from 49% in 1993 to 56% in 2001.²¹

One in five children (10 to 17 years old) receive unwanted sexual solicitations online.²²

– *Texas Association Against Sexual Assault*

¹² Texas Department of Public Safety. December 2002. *Crime in Texas Report 2002*.

¹³ FBI. *2002 Uniform Crime Reports*.

¹⁴ Rennison, C. June 2001. *Criminal Victimization 2000: Changes 1999-2000 with Trends 1993-2000*. Washington, DC: US Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics.

¹⁵ Bureau of Justice Statistics. August 1998. *Sex Offenses and Offenders*. Washington, DC: US Department of Justice.

¹⁶ Ibid.

¹⁷ Bureau of Justice Statistics. 1999. *National Crime Victimization Survey*. Washington, DC: US Department of Justice.

¹⁸ Ibid.

¹⁹ Greenfield, L. February 1997. *Sex Offenses and Offenders*. Washington, DC: US Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics.

²⁰ American Association of University Women Educational Foundation. 2001. *Hostile Hallways: Bullying, Teasing, and Sexual Harassment*. Washington, DC: AAUW.

²¹ Ibid.

²² Finkelhor, D, Mitchell, K, and Wolak, J. March 2001. *Highlights of the Youth Internet Safety Survey*. Washington, DC: US Department of Justice, Office of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

According to a study conducted by the National Victim Center, 1.3 women (age 18 and over) in the United States are forcibly raped each minute. That translates to 78 an hour, 1,871 per day, or 683,000 per year.²³

According to the U.S. Department of Justice, nearly 6 out of 10 rape/sexual assault incidents are reported by victims to have occurred in their own home or a the home of a friend, relative, or neighbor.²⁴

51% of the sexual assault cases studied in the Women's Safety Project survey were committed against young women between 16 and 21 years old.²⁵

In 29% of rapes, the offender used a weapon.²⁶

According to the U.S. Department of Justice, an estimated 91% of the victims of rape and sexual assault are female and 9% are male. Nearly 99% of the offenders they described in single-victim incidents are male.²⁷

Rape or sexual assault was the violent crime least often reported to law enforcement (28%).²⁸

Only 16% of rapes are ever reported to the police. In a survey of victims who do not report rape or attempted rape to the police, the following was found as to why no report was made: 43% thought nothing could be done, 27% felt it was a private matter, 12% were afraid of police response, and 12% felt it was not important enough.²⁹

13.3% of college women indicated that they had been forced to have sex in a dating situation.³⁰

In a national survey, 27.7% of college women reported a sexual experience since the age of fourteen that met the legal definition of rape or attempted rape, and 7.7% of college men reported perpetrating aggressive behavior which met the legal definition of rape.³¹

Among developmentally disabled adults, as many as 83% of the females and 32% of the males are the victims of sexual assault.³²

²³ Kilpatrick, DJ, Edmunds, CN and Seymour, A. 1992. *Rape in America: A Report to the Nation*, Arlington, VA: National Victim Center.

²⁴ Greenfield, Lawrence A. 1997. *Sex Offenses and Offenders: An Analysis of Data on Rape and Sexual Assault*, Washington, DC: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Office of Justice Programs, US Department of Justice.

²⁵ Randall, Melanie and Haskell, Lori. 1995. "Sexual Violence in Women's Safety Project, A Community-Based Survey," *Violence Against Women* 1 (1): 6-31.

²⁶ *Violence Against Women*, Bureau of Justice Statistics, US Department of Justice, 1994.

²⁷ Ibid.

²⁸ Bureau of Justice Statistics, 2000. *Criminal Victimization 1999: Changes 1998-1999 with Trends 1993-99*. National Crime Victimization Survey. Washington, DC: Bureau of Justice Statistics, US Department of Justice.

²⁹ Kirkpatrick, et al., 1992.

³⁰ Johnson, I, Sigler R, 2000. "Forced Sexual Intercourse Among Intimates," *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, 15(1).

³¹ Koss, MP, Gidycz, KA, and Wisniewski, N. "The Scope of Rape: Incidence and Prevalence of Sexual Aggression and Victimization in a National Sample of Higher Education Students," *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*, 1987: 55 (2) 162-170.

The National Violence Against Women Survey found that rape is a crime committed primarily against youth. Of the women who reported being raped sometime in their lives, 21.6% were younger than age 12, 32.4% were ages 12 to 17, 29% were ages 18 to 24, and 16.6% were over 25 years old. Thus, 54% of women victims were under age 18 at the time of the first rape and 83% were under the age of 25.³³

Between 1/3 and 2/3 of known sexual assault victims are age 15 or younger.³⁴

The rate of rapes and sexual assaults against lesbian and gays rose 13% nationally in 1995-1996, approximately twice the 6% rate for all violent crimes.³⁵

16% of male students surveyed by the Ms. Foundation who had committed rape, and 10% of those who attempted a rape, took part in episodes involving multiple perpetrators.³⁶

Women with disabilities are raped and abused at a rate at least twice that of the general population of women.³⁷

An estimated 92,700 men are forcibly raped each year in the United States.³⁸

77% of completed rapes are committed by someone who is known to the victim.³⁹

– National Sexual Violence Resource Center

³² Stimson, L and Best MC. "Courage Above All," *Sexual Assault Against Women with Disabilities*. Toronto, Disabled Women's Network, Canada, 1991.

³³ Tjaden, Patricia and Thoennes, Nancy. November 1998. *Prevalence, Incidence and Consequences of Violence Against Women: Findings from the National Violence Against Women Survey*. Washington, DC: National Institute of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, US Department of Justice.

³⁴ Population Information Program. *Population Reports: Ending Violence Against Women*, 2000. Population Information Program, Center for Communications Programs. Johns Hopkins School of Public Health and Center for Healthcare Gender Equity.

³⁵ *Anti Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Violence Report*, New York City Gay & Lesbian Anti-Violence Project, 1996.

³⁶ Warshaw, Robin. 1994. "I Never Called it Rape," *The Ms. Report on Recognizing, Fighting and Surviving Date & Acquaintance Rape*, New York: Harper Perennial.

³⁷ Sobsey, D, 1994. "Violence and Abuse in the Lives of People with Disabilities," *The End of Silent Acceptance*, Baltimore, MD: Paul H. Brooks Publishing Co, Inc.

³⁸ Tjaden and Thoennes, November 1998.

³⁹ Greenfield, Lawrence A. 1997. *Sex Offenses and Offenders: An Analysis of Data on Rape and Sexual Assault*, Washington, DC: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Office of Justice Programs, US Department of Justice.