



# FREAA

FINDING RECOVERY & EMPOWERMENT FROM ABUSE

## STATISTICS ON SEXUAL ABUSE

# Men, Women, and Children Are All Affected by Sexual Violence

- 1 out of every 6 American women has been the victim of an attempted or completed rape in her lifetime (14.8% completed, 2.8% attempted).<sup>4</sup>
- About 3% of American men—or 1 in 33—have experienced an attempted or completed rape in their lifetime.<sup>4</sup>
- From 2009-2013, Child Protective Services agencies substantiated, or found strong evidence to indicate that, 63,000 children a year were victims of sexual abuse.<sup>5</sup>
- A majority of child victims are 12-17. Of victims under the age of 18:
  - 34% of victims of sexual assault and rape are under age 12.<sup>6</sup>
  - 66% of victims of sexual assault and rape are age 12-17.<sup>6</sup>

<https://www.rainn.org/statistics/scope-problem>

- One in 9 girls and 1 in 53 boys under the age of 18 experience sexual abuse or assault at the hands of an adult.<sup>3</sup>
- 82% of all victims under 18 are female.<sup>4</sup>
- Females ages 16-19 are 4 times more likely than the general population to be victims of rape, attempted rape, or sexual assault.<sup>2</sup>

The effects of child sexual abuse can be long-lasting and affect the victim's mental health. Victims are more likely than non-victims to experience the following mental health challenges:<sup>5</sup>

- About 4 times more likely to develop symptoms of drug abuse
  - About 4 times more likely to experience PTSD as adults
  - About 3 times more likely to experience a major depressive episode as adults
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- Out of the yearly 63,000 sexual abuse cases substantiated, or found strong evidence, by Child Protective Services (CPS),<sup>6</sup> the perpetrator was most often the parent:<sup>1</sup>
    - 80% of perpetrators were a parent
    - 6% were other relatives
    - 5% were "other" (from siblings to strangers)
    - 4% were unmarried partners of a parent
  - Out of the sexual abuse cases reported to CPS in 2013, 47,000 men and 5,000 women were the

alleged perpetrators.<sup>6</sup>

- In 88% of the sexual abuse claims that CPS substantiates or finds supporting evidence of, the perpetrator is male. In 9% of cases they are female, and 3% are unknown.<sup>6</sup>

Sexual violence on campus is pervasive.

- 11.2% of all students experience rape or sexual assault through physical force, violence, or incapacitation (among all graduate and undergraduate students).<sup>2</sup>
- Among graduate and professional students, 8.8% of females and 2.2% of males experience rape or sexual assault through physical force, violence, or incapacitation.<sup>2</sup>
- Among undergraduate students, 23.1% of females and 5.4% of males experience rape or sexual assault through physical force, violence, or incapacitation.<sup>2</sup>
- 4.2% of students have experienced stalking since entering college.<sup>2</sup>

Student or not, college-age adults are at high risk for sexual violence.

- Male college-aged students (18-24) are 78% more likely than non-students of the same age to be a victim of rape or sexual assault.<sup>1</sup>

Female college-aged students (18-24) are 20% less likely than non-students of the same age to be a victim of rape or sexual assault.<sup>1</sup>

- About 1 in 6 college-aged female survivors received assistance from a victim services agency.<sup>2</sup>
- 21% of TGQN (transgender, genderqueer, nonconforming) college students have been sexually assaulted, compared to 18% of non-TGQN females, and 4% of non-TGQN males.<sup>2</sup>

<https://www.rainn.org/statistics/campus-sexual-violence>

- Only 20% of female student victims, age 18-24, report to law enforcement.<sup>1</sup>
- Only 32% of nonstudent females the same age do make a report.<sup>1</sup>

### **Sexual violence may occur at a higher rate at certain times of the year**

- More than 50% of college sexual assaults occur in either August, September, October, or November.<sup>4</sup>
- Students are at an increased risk during the first few months of their first and second semesters in college.<sup>4</sup>

### **Campus law enforcement has a significant role in addressing and responding to college sexual assault**

- 86% of sworn campus law enforcement officials have legal authority to make an arrest outside of the campus grounds.<sup>5</sup>
- 86% of sworn campus law enforcement agencies have a staff member responsible for rape prevention programming.<sup>5</sup>
- 70% of campus law enforcement agencies have memorandums of understanding (MOUs) with local law enforcement.<sup>5</sup>
- 72% of campus law enforcement agencies have a staff member responsible for survivor response and assistance.<sup>5</sup>
- Among 4-year academic institutions with 2,500 students or more, 75% employ armed officers, a 10% increase in the last decade.<sup>5</sup>

### **Overview on the Issue of Sexual Abuse**

- Approximately one in five (19.3%) of women experience rape in their lifetimes
- One in four girls and one in six boys will be sexually abused before the age of 18
- 43.9% of women will experience sexual violence (other than rape) during their lifetimes
- 23.4% of men will experience sexual violence (other than rape) during their lifetimes

### **Health costs**

- 81% of women and 35% of men report significant impacts such as Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)
- Annually, rape costs the U.S. more than any other crime (\$127 billion), followed by assault (\$93 billion), murder (\$71 billion), and drunk driving (\$61 billion)
- Health care is 16% higher for women who were sexually abused as children
- Sexual assault is associated with an increased lifetime rate of attempted suicide. In women, a history of sexual trauma before age 16 years is a particularly strong correlate of attempted suicide.
- Women who experience sexual assault report more somatic complaints, poorer perceptions of physical health, greater psychological distress, and increased use of medical services.
- Men who reported experiencing early childhood sexual abuse had a two-fold increase in prevalence of HIV infection relative to men who reported no abuse.

Link: [http://www.svfreenyc.org/media/factsheets/fsht\\_144.pdf](http://www.svfreenyc.org/media/factsheets/fsht_144.pdf)

### **Furthermore, according to a 2010 Internet survey by the National Alliance to End Sexual Violence:**

- 56% of rape crisis centers had been forced to reduce staff in the past year
- 25% of rape crisis centers had a waiting list for crisis services
- 66% of rape crisis centers had to reduce prevention education/public awareness efforts because of funding losses
- 61% of rape crisis centers had three (3) or less staff
- 60% of rape crisis centers indicated they need at least four (4) full-time staff to meet the current demand for sexual assault services in their community

Report link: <http://www.nsvrc.org/sites/default/files/CostsConsequencesSV.pdf>

## **Resources:**

National Sexual Violence Resource Center: <http://www.nsvrc.org/about/national-sexual-violence-resource-center>.

Statistics for Journalists About Sexual Violence in the U.S.: [http://www.nsvrc.org/sites/default/files/publications\\_nsvrc\\_factsheet\\_media-packet\\_statistics-about-sexual-violence\\_0.pdf](http://www.nsvrc.org/sites/default/files/publications_nsvrc_factsheet_media-packet_statistics-about-sexual-violence_0.pdf).

Key Metrics From Attached Fact Sheet PDF:

### **Sexual Violence in the U.S.:**

- One in five women and one in 71 men will be raped at some point in their lives.
- 46.4% lesbians, 74.9% bisexual women and 43.3% heterosexual women reported sexual violence other than rape during their lifetimes, while 40.2% gay men, 47.4% bisexual men and 20.8% heterosexual men reported sexual violence other than rape during their lifetimes.
- Nearly one in 10 women has been raped by an intimate partner in her lifetime, including completed forced penetration, attempted forced penetration or alcohol/drug-facilitated completed penetration. Approximately one in 45 men has been made to penetrate an intimate partner during his lifetime.
- 91% of the victims of rape and sexual assault are female, and 9% are male.
- In eight out of 10 cases of rape, the victim knew the person who sexually assaulted them.
- 8% of rapes occur while the victim is at work.

### **Cost and Impact:**

- Each rape costs approximately \$151,423.
- Annually, rape costs the U.S. more than any other crime (\$127 billion), followed by assault (\$93 billion), murder (\$71 billion), and drunk driving (\$61 billion).
- 81% of women and 35% of men report significant short-term or long-term impacts such as Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).
- Health care is 16% higher for women who were sexually abused as children.

### **Child Sexual Abuse:**

- One in four girls and one in six boys will be sexually abused before they turn 18 years old.
- 34% of people who sexually abuse a child are family members.
- 12.3% of women were age 10 or younger at the time of their first rape/victimization, and 30% of women were between the ages of 11 and 17.
- 27.8% of men were age 10 or younger at the time of their first rape/victimization.
- More than one-third of women who report being raped before age 18 also experience rape as an adult.

- 96% of people who sexually abuse children are male, and 76.8% of people who sexually abuse children are adults.
- 325,000 children are at risk of becoming victims of commercial child sexual exploitation each year.
- The average age at which girls first become victims of prostitution is 12 to 14 years old, and the average age for boys is 11 to 13 years old.

### **Campus Sexual Assault:**

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- One in 5 women and one in 16 men are sexually assaulted while in college.
- More than 90% of sexual assault victims on college campuses do not report the assault.
- 63.3% of men at one university who self-reported acts qualifying as rape or attempted rape admitted to committing repeat rapes.

### **Crime Reports:**

- Rape is the most under-reported crime; 63% of sexual assaults are not reported to police.
- Only 12% of child sexual abuse is reported to the authorities.
- The prevalence of false reporting is between 2% and 10%. For example, a study of eight U.S. communities, which included 2,059 cases of sexual assault, found a 7.1% rate of false reports (k). A study of 136 sexual assault cases in Boston found a 5.9% rate of false reports. Researchers studied 812 reports of sexual assault from 2000-03 and found a 2.1% rate of false reports.

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Statistics From RAINN: Rape Abuse and Incent National Network: See <https://rainn.org/statistics>.

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"National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey"; 2010 data published by the U.S. Center for Disease and Prevention (CDC): <http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/nisvs/index.html>.

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"*Nearly 1 in 5 Women in U.S. Survey Say They Have Been Sexually Assaulted*", New York Times, December 14, 2011. <http://www.nytimes.com/2011/12/15/health/nearly-1-in-5-women-in-us-survey-report-sexual-assault.html? r=0>.

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Sexual Violence Reports Published by the World Health Organization (WHO): [http://www.who.int/reproductivehealth/topics/violence/sexual\\_violence/en/](http://www.who.int/reproductivehealth/topics/violence/sexual_violence/en/).

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"*A Comparison of Sexual Assault in the U.S., Canada, and England*"; Bridgewater State University, "Undergraduate Review": [http://vc.bridgew.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1055&context=undergrad\\_rev](http://vc.bridgew.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1055&context=undergrad_rev).

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United Kingdom: "Crime Statistics, Focus on Violence Crime and Sexual Offenses": <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/crime-stats/crime-statistics/focus-on-violent-crime-and-sexual-offences--2013-14/index.html>

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Cost estimates are all over the board depending on what's included.

### **Hospital Treatment Costs:**

In one July 2012 post in a website named, "Jezebel", they displayed what is purported to be a copy of an actual hospital treatment bill (medical treatment and rape kit samples) of \$4,750. In this particular case, the insurance company paid most of the bill, but that isn't always going to be the case. Another case cited in the post claimed that cost was \$6,000.

Even though the victim herself didn't pay most of the bill, that one single \$4,750 incident is a cost to the U.S. economy and society.

Link: <http://jezebel.com/5927962/treatment-for-rape-without-insurance-costs-more-than-some-good-used-cars>.

### **U.S. White House Counsel:**

In January 2014, the U.S. White House Counsel of Women and Girls released a conference report entitled, "Rape and Sexual Assault: a Renewed Call to Action". In the "Economic Costs" section of that report, they say, in part,

"Although the economic costs of rape and sexual assault are hard to quantify and the data is limited, the existing research indicates that the costs are great. Various research studies have examined the quantifiable cost per rape, accounting for such costs as medical and victim services, loss of productivity, and law enforcement resources. Researchers also generally agree that intangible costs, such as decreased quality of life, though difficult to monetize, are also a necessary part of the cost calculus for sexual assault. (Many researches, in fact, believe the intangible costs are especially high in cases of sexual assault, due to the serious physical and mental health consequences for survivors.) Each of the studies we examined used a somewhat different methodology, but all found the costs to be significant – ranging from \$87,000 to \$240,776 per rape.<sup>50</sup>".

There is also other useful information we can probably use in the White House Conference Report.

Link: [https://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/docs/sexual\\_assault\\_report\\_1-21-14.pdf](https://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/docs/sexual_assault_report_1-21-14.pdf).

### **New York Alliance Against Sexual Assault:**

Another estimate reported by the New York Alliance Against Sexual Assault, states,

## **The Cost of Rape**

“The National Institute of Justice estimates that rape and other sexual assaults of adults cause an annual minimum loss of 127 billion dollars, or about \$508 per U.S. resident. This includes tangible losses such as initial police response, medical care, mental health services, property damage or loss, and loss of productivity; and intangible losses, such as loss of quality of life, pain, and suffering. These costs do not include the costs of investigation, prosecution or incarceration of offenders. This figure makes sexual assault the costliest crime; even higher than murder.” US Department of Justice, Victim Costs and Consequences: A New Look, 1996; Summary by Virginians Aligned Against Sexual Assault.

Report source link: [http://www.svfreenyc.org/media/research/medical\\_cost\\_of\\_rape.pdf](http://www.svfreenyc.org/media/research/medical_cost_of_rape.pdf).

As you can see, the sources are about 20-years old. According to the U.S. Inflation Calculator online service, the \$508 per resident cost in 2015 is now \$767.40. The 1996 127 billion dollar price tag adjusted for inflation is calculated at 192 billion dollars in 2015 dollars.

In a fact sheet (different document from the one above) from the New York Alliance Against Sexual Assault, among other research findings, they state,

### **Health and Mental Health**

- Sexual assault is associated with an increased lifetime rate of attempted suicide. In women, a history of sexual trauma before age 16 years is a particularly strong correlate of attempted suicide.
- Women who experience sexual assault report more somatic complaints, poorer perceptions of physical health, greater psychological distress, and increased use of medical services.
- Men who reported experiencing early childhood sexual abuse had a two-fold increase in prevalence of HIV infection relative to men who reported no abuse.

Link: [http://www.svfreenyc.org/media/factsheets/fsht\\_144.pdf](http://www.svfreenyc.org/media/factsheets/fsht_144.pdf)

### **National Alliance to End Sexual Violence:**

In a 2011 report, the National Alliance to End Sexual Violence non-profit organization pointed out that rape crisis services are scarce and growing scarcer. Highlights (or more accurately stated, lowlights) were:

Rape Crisis Services are Scarce According to a 2010 Internet survey by the National Alliance to End Sexual Violence of 644 rape crisis centers from all 50 states, Washington D.C. and two territories:

- 56% of rape crisis centers had been forced to reduce staff in the past year.
- 25% of rape crisis centers had a waiting list for crisis services.
- 66% of rape crisis centers had to reduce prevention education/public awareness efforts because of funding losses.
- 61% of rape crisis centers had three (3) or less staff.

- 60% of rape crisis centers indicated they need at least four (4) full-time staff to meet the current demand for sexual assault services in their community.
- 93% of rape crisis center employees were paid less than \$40,000 a year.

This 2011 report also discussed aggregate and individual case costs based on earlier data.

Report link: <http://www.nsvrc.org/sites/default/files/CostsConsequencesSV.pdf>

### **Challenging Data Environment:**

As you can see, based on the various research and report sources nailing down firm societal impact costs can be a challenge. It's easy to tiptoe into the weeds and get lost in the data forest.

I think a few data points from original authoritative studies and sources will illustrate the impact story nicely. I haven't yet come across any useful data about the cost of non-treatment.

I'll continue exploring the sexual assault cost and related issues universe. I think, however, between the sources listed in my original reply and the ones above, we have a good starting point of societal impact information.

Steve 1-27-2016

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# **Economic costs of sexual assault**

## **INTRODUCTION**

It is impossible to assess the economic toll of sexual violence. Victims pay for sexual violence out of their own pockets, and the public pays through provision of services to victims and their significant others. Public and private funds are spent on crisis services, medical treatment, and the criminal justice responses. Workdays are lost because of injury and illness. Businesses lose money through employee absences and sexual harassment suits. The cost for offenders' incarceration, probation, treatment and other offender services adds to the total cost of sexual assault.

## **STATISTICS**

### **COSTS OF VIOLENT CRIME**



The cost of crime to victims in 1996 was an estimated \$450 billion a year when factors such as medical costs, lost earning, pain, suffering and lost quality of life were considered.<sup>1</sup> An estimated \$23 billion of the cost is attributed to lost productivity and almost \$145 billion is because of reduced quality of life.<sup>2</sup>

Violent crimes account for 1/3 of all crimes, but account for 95% of the total cost of crime. Most of the cost is attributable to the intangible costs of the victim's pain, suffering and lost quality of life.<sup>3</sup>

About 12% of total mental health costs is spent on crime victims.<sup>4</sup>

The estimated annual cost of crime in the United States, \$450 billion, is almost totally attributable to violent crime (\$426 billion), and exceeds the entire \$266 billion cost of the U.S. defense budget by 69%.<sup>5</sup>

### **COSTS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT**

Rape is the most costly of all crimes to its victims. Total costs are estimated to be \$127 billion a year in the United States, excluding the costs of child sexual abuse.<sup>6</sup>

The cost for each sexual assault is \$110,000; because many rape victims are subjected to more than one sexual assault, the cost per rape is estimated to be \$87,000. The cost per sexual assault is broken down as follows:

- |                           |         |
|---------------------------|---------|
| • Short-term medical care | \$ 500  |
| • Mental health services  | 2,400   |
| • Lost productivity       | 2,200   |
| • Pain and suffering      | 104,900 |

The pain and suffering cost is based on these facts:<sup>7</sup>

- Up to half of all victims suffer from at least one symptom of rape trauma syndrome.
- Rape victims are four times more likely to have an emotional breakdown than are non-victims.
- 25% to 50% of sexual assault victims are likely to seek mental health services and victims often suffer from lifelong physical manifestations of sexual trauma.

The total cost of sexual assault to victims was \$18 million in 2002.<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Miller, Ted, Mark A. Cohen, and Brian Wiersema. 1996. *Victim Costs and Consequences: A New Look*. National Institute of Justice. U.S. Department of Justice. Washington, D.C.

<sup>2</sup> Miller, Ted R., Mark A. Cohen, and Shelli B. Rossman, Victim Costs of Violent Crime and Resulting Injuries. *Health Affairs* (Winter 1993).

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

<sup>4</sup> Cohen, Mark; Miller, Ted. The Cost of Mental Health Care for Victims of Crime. (13)(1) *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*: (1998): 93-110.

<sup>5</sup> Miller, Cohen, et al. Russia and the U.S.: Growing Cooperation? *Great Decisions: 1997*. New York: Foreign Policy Association (1997).

<sup>6</sup> Miller, Cohen, et al. Russia and the U.S.: Growing Cooperation? *Great Decisions: 1997*. New York: Foreign Policy Association (1997).

<sup>7</sup> Ibid.

## **COSTS OF SEXUAL HARASSMENT**

In 1988, sexual harassment cost the typical Fortune 500 company \$6.7 million per year, or \$282 per employee.<sup>9</sup>

Over a two-year period, the U.S. government lost more than \$267 million in diminished productivity and turnover due to sexual harassment.<sup>10</sup>

90% of Fortune 500 companies surveyed received complaints of sexual harassment. More than 1/3 experienced lawsuits; more than 1/4 had repeated lawsuits.<sup>11</sup>

## **IMPACT ON THE VICTIM**

### **RAPE AND PHYSICAL INJURY**

32% of women and 16% of men raped since age 18 were physically injured in their most recent rape.<sup>12</sup>

2% of all rapes result in the death of the victim.<sup>13</sup>

Following is a breakdown of injury and death rates connected with sexual assault from 1987-1990:

- 229,000 victimizations;
- 148,000 victims (some victims were raped more than once);
- 90,000 nonfatal physical injuries;
- 6,000 hospitalizations from injuries;
- 305 deaths.

The monetary cost for rape accompanied by a physical injury in the early 1990s was:<sup>14</sup>

Total cost other than mental health:		\$ 6,228
Medical	\$1,367	
Emergency services	66	

<sup>8</sup> Bureau of Justice Statistics. 2002. *National Crime Victimization Survey*. Table 82.

<sup>9</sup> Klein Associates. 1988. *The 1988 Working Woman Survey Report*.

<sup>10</sup> National Victim Center, 1991.

<sup>11</sup> Klein, 1988.

<sup>12</sup> Tjaden, Patricia, and Nancy Thoennes. *Prevalence, Incidence and Consequences of Violence Against Women: Findings from the National Violence Against Women Survey*. U.S. Department of Justice. National Institute of Justice. Washington, D.C. (Nov. 1998).

<sup>13</sup> Groth, Nicholas. *Men Who Rape: The Psychology of the Offender*. New York: Plenum Press, 1979.

<sup>14</sup> Miller, Ted R., Mark A. Cohen, and Shelli B. Rossman, Victim Costs of Violent Crime and Resulting Injuries. *Health Affairs* (Winter 1993).

Productivity	4,683	
Administrative	112	
Total mental health cost:		36,306
Mental health medical	4,990	
Mental health productivity	1,465	
Quality of life lost to psychological injury	29,851	
<b>TOTAL COST</b>		<b>\$42,534</b>

## MEDICAL CARE

Hospital emergency department personnel treat approximately 128,700 female adults annually for injuries related to rapes.<sup>15</sup>

In 1994, 17.6% of rape/sexual assault victims received medical care. They were most likely to receive medical care at an emergency room or hospital (46%), and next most likely to receive medical care at home or a neighbor's or friend's home (38.8%).<sup>16</sup>

## MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Rape, childhood sexual abuse and domestic violence are among the most common causes of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) in women. The chances that a woman will develop PTSD after being raped are 50-90%. Sexual assault is also closely associated with depression and anxiety disorders.<sup>17</sup>

Psychological injury results from 57% of completed sexual assaults, 37% of physical assaults, and 18% of robberies. Psychological injury ranges from severe psychological disorder to emotional distress. For rape, the ratio of severe disorder to distress is 1 to 4, compared with a ratio of 1 to 8 for other crimes.<sup>18</sup>

30% of female stalking victims and 20% of male stalking victims seek psychological counseling following their victimization.<sup>19</sup>

Up to 20% of mental health expenditures are used to treat victims of violent crime.<sup>20</sup>

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<sup>15</sup> Tjaden and Thoennes, 1998.

<sup>16</sup> U.S. Department of Justice. Bureau of Justice Statistics. *National Crime Victimization Survey*. Washington, D.C.: 1994.

<sup>17</sup> Population Information Program. *Population Reports: Ending Violence Against Women*. Population Information Program, Center for Communication Programs. The Johns Hopkins School of Public Health and Center for Health and Gender Equity: 2000.

<sup>18</sup> Miller, Ted R., Mark A. Cohen, and Shelli B. Rossman, Victim Costs of Violent Crime and Resulting Injuries. *Health Affairs* (Winter 1993).

<sup>19</sup> Tjaden, Patricia, and Nancy Thoennes. *Prevalence, Incidence and Consequences of Violence Against Women: Findings from the National Violence Against Women Survey*. U.S. Department of Justice. National Institute of Justice. Washington, D.C. (Nov. 1998).

<sup>20</sup> Miller, Ted, Mark A. Cohen, and Brian Wiersema. 1996. *Victim Costs and Consequences: A New Look*. National Institute of Justice. U.S. Department of Justice. Washington, D.C.

## **LOST WORK TIME AND PRODUCTIVITY**

Fourteen percent of rape and sexual assault victims lost time from work as a result of their victimization; 28% of them lost 6-10 days.<sup>21</sup>

Each year, victims of intimate partner rape lose an estimated 1.1 million days of activity. Mean daily earnings lost by intimate partner rape victims is \$69.<sup>22</sup>

## **THEFT AND DAMAGE TO PROPERTY**

Crimes of violence often include theft and property damage resulting in direct monetary loss to victims. In 1990, 30% of crime victims lost less than \$50, 11% lost from \$50-\$99; 16% lost \$100-\$249, 8% lost \$250-\$499, 15% lost \$500 or more.<sup>23</sup>

15% of all sexual assault victims incurred a direct economic loss from the crime, mostly due to damage to property.<sup>24</sup>

National Sex Offender Public Website:

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<sup>21</sup> Bureau of Justice Statistics. 2002. *National Crime Victimization Survey*, Tables 87, 89.

<sup>22</sup> Centers for Disease Control. 2003. *Cost of Intimate Partner Violence Against Women in the United States*.

<sup>23</sup> Bureau of Justice Statistics, 1992.

<sup>24</sup> Bureau of Justice Statistics, 1992.

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## **Sexual Violence Victimization**

### **Prevalence of Sexual Violence Victimization**

In the United States, an estimated 19.3% of women (or >23 million women) have been raped during their lifetimes ([Table 1](#)). Completed forced penetration was experienced by an estimated 11.5% of women. Nationally, an estimated 1.6% of women (or approximately 1.9 million women) were raped in the 12 months before taking the survey.

An estimated 43.9% of women experienced sexual violence other than rape during their lifetimes, and an estimated 5.5% of women were victims of sexual violence other than rape in the 12 months preceding the survey. For men, an estimated 23.4% experienced sexual violence other than rape during their lifetimes, and 5.1% experienced sexual violence other than rape in the 12 months before completing the survey.

[http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/ss6308a1.htm?s\\_cid=ss6308a1\\_e#Table1](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/ss6308a1.htm?s_cid=ss6308a1_e#Table1)

## Sexual Assault Statistics

### How often does rape happen?

- ***One in four college women report surviving rape or attempted rape at some point in their lifetime. These are anonymous reports on multi-campus surveys sampling thousands of college students nationwide (Fisher, Cullen & Turner, 2000; Tjaden & Thoennes, 2006). This rate has remained the same since studies in the 1980s (Koss, Gidycz, & Wisniewki, 1987).***
- ***In the U.S. Military academies, 5% of women report surviving rape every year, as do 2.4% of the men (Snyder, Fisher, Scherer, & Daigle, 2012).***
- ***5% of women on college campuses experience rape or attempted rape every year (Kilpatrick, Resnick, Riggiero, Conoscenti, & McCauley, 2007; American College Health Association, 2013).***
- ***673,000 women currently attending U.S. colleges and universities have experienced rape at some point in their lifetime (Kilpatrick, Resnick, Riggiero, Conoscenti & McCauley, 2007).***
- ***In one year 300,000 college women, over 5% of women enrolled in colleges and universities, experience rape. This does not include other forms of sexual assault (Kilpatrick, et al.)***
- ***25% of women and 16% of men have been sexually abused as children (Dube, Withfield, & Felitti, 2005).***
- ***For men who are abused as children, 62% of their offenders were men, 38% were women (Dube, Withfield, & Felitti, 2005).***
- ***For women abused as children, 92% of perpetrators were men (Dube, Withfield, & Felitti, 2005).***
- ***Of those women who enter the Navy, 39% are rape survivors prior to their service.***
- ***Of those men who enter the Navy, 13% are perpetrators prior to their service.***
- ***28% of women in the military experienced rape during their military service (Sadler, Booth, & Doebbeling, 2005).***
- ***Of those women who men rape in the military, 96% of the perpetrators are U.S. military men (Sadler, Booth, & Doebbeling, 2005).***
- ***Every year in the United States, 1,270,000 women experience rape (Black, Basile, Breiding, Smith, Walters, & Merrick, 2011).***

- **Approximately 1 in 5 Black (22.0%) and White non-Hispanic (19%) women, and 1 in 7 Hispanic women (15%) in the United States have experienced rape at some point in their lives. (Black, Basile, Breiding, Smith, Walters, & Merrick, 2011).**
- **More than one-quarter of women (27%) who identified as American Indian or as Alaska Native and 1 in 3 women (34%) who identified as multiracial non-Hispanic have experienced rape in their lifetime. (Black, Basile, Breiding, Smith, Walters, & Merrick, 2011).**

#### Aspects of the situation that affect rape

- **The presence of a bystander makes a completed rape 44% less likely (Clay-Warner, 2002).**
- **72-81% of cases in which a male rapes a female college student, the female is intoxicated (Lisak & Miller, 2002; Mohler-Kuo, et al., 2004).**
- **In a study by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control of 5,000 college students at over 100 colleges, 4% of men answered "yes" to the question "In your lifetime have you been forced to submit to sexual intercourse against your will?" (2)**
- **The highest sexual assault risk situation for college women is after they become voluntarily intoxicated (Kilpatrick, et al., 2007).**
- **60% of rapes on college campuses occur with a perpetrator who is an acquaintance of the survivor. 32% are romantic partners, 8% are unknown/strangers. (Zinzow & Thompson, 2011).**

#### Who are the survivors?

- **Women in sororities are 74% more likely to experience rape than other college women, and those who live in the sorority house are over three times as likely to experience rape ((Minow & Einolf, 2009; Mohler-Kuo, Dowdall, Koss, & Weschler, 2004).**
- **Frequent, heavy episodic drinking increases college women's chances of experiencing rape by eight-fold (Mohler-Kuo et al., 2004).**
- **The more that a woman can recognize threatening cues in a situation that could turn into a sexual assault situation, the more likely she can resist or escape (Turchik, Probst, Chau, Nigoff, & Gidycz, 2007).**

#### Who are the perpetrators?

- **For female rape survivors, 98.1% of the time a man was the perpetrator (Black, Basile, Breiding, Smith, Walters, & Merrick, 2011).**
- **For male rape survivors, 93% of the time, a man was the perpetrator (Black, Basile, Breiding, Smith, Walters, & Merrick, 2011).**
- **Among male offenders who rape women, 64% were using alcohol and/or drugs prior to the attack (Brecklin & Ullman, 2002).**

- *Two different longitudinal studies have found that fraternity men are three times more likely to commit sexual assault than other college men (Foubert, Newberry, & Tatum, 2007; Loh, Gidycz, Lobo, & Luthra, 2005.)*
- *Rapists are almost always (98%) men (Sedgwick, 2006).*
- *College men who consume alcohol two or more times a week and had friends who support physical and emotional abuse of women are nine times more likely to commit sexual assault than men with none of these characteristics (DeKeseredy & Schwartz, 2014).*
- *9% of college men admit to acts meeting the legal definition of either rape or attempted rape (Abbey & McAuslan, 2004).*
- *Perpetrators are extremely adept at identifying ◊likely◊ victims and testing prospective victims◊ boundaries. (Lisak & Miller, 2002).*
- *Perpetrators plan and premeditate their attacks, using sophisticated strategies to groom their victims for attack, and to isolate them physically (Lisak & Miller, 2002).*
- *Perpetrators use alcohol deliberately to render victims more vulnerable to attack, or completely unconscious (Lisak & Miller, 2002).*
- *Perpetrators view women as sexual objects to be conquered, coerced and used for self-gratification (Lisak & Miller, 2002).*
- *Perpetrators easily feel slighted by women, and carry grudges against them. This underlying hostility is easily evoked and leads them to see women as ◊teases◊ who either ◊secretly◊ want to be coerced into sex, or else ◊deserve◊ it (Lisak & Miller, 2002).*
- *Perpetrators view sexual relations as ◊conquests,◊ and all women as potential ◊targets◊ of conquests (Lisak & Miller, 2002).*
- *Perpetrators tend to be part of sexually violent all-male subcultures that normalize sexual conquests through violent pornography explicit images of rape as being acceptable, non-criminal, and the sign of male virility (Lisak & Miller, 2002).*

#### What happens after the rape?

- *Approximately 11% of college women who experience rape report it to the police (Kilpatrick, et al., 2007).*
- *7% of college women who experience drug, alcohol, or incapacitated rape report it to the police. (Kilpatrick, et al., 2007).*
- *Of those cases reported to the police, less than 10% of rape cases result in criminal charges against a defendant (Alderden & Ullman, 2012).*
- *Survivors are significantly more likely than women in the general population to suffer from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (McFarlane, Malecha, Watson, Gist, Batten, Hall, & Smith,*

2005); in fact, rape survivors are the largest population in the nation with PTSD (Campbell & Wasco, 2005).

- *Rape is the least reported of all violent crimes (Rand, 2009).*
- *The most common person a female survivor tells about what happened to her is a friend (Ahrens, Campbell, Ternier-Thames, Wasco, & Sefl, 2007).*

### Prevention

- *High-risk men who see The Men's Program commit 40% fewer sexual assaults than high risk men who are untreated (Foubert, 2011; Foubert, Newberry & Tatum, 2007).*
- *High risk men who see The Men's Program and who do commit sexual violence, commit acts that are 8 times less severe than untreated men (Foubert, 2011; Foubert, Newberry & Tatum, 2007).*
- *College students who see The Men's Program are more likely to intervene as a bystander to help prevent rape (Langhinrichsen-Rohling, Foubert, Brasfield, Hill, & Shelley-Tremblay, 2011).*
- *Men in the military who see The Men's Program report lower likelihood of raping, lower likelihood of committing sexual assault, and higher levels of bystander intervention than untreated men (Foubert & Masin, 2012).*

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## **Sexual Assault Statistics**

Sexual Violence is primarily a crime of power and control. It can impact all people, regardless of age, ethnicity, race or economic status. Although younger women represent the majority of victims, not all young women are at equal risk for sexual violence. Additionally, there are other populations with high rates of sexual victimization such as Native Americans, immigrants and the elderly that are often voiceless in society and marginalized from medical, legal and social services. In 8 out of 10 rape cases, the victim knew the perpetrator.<sup>1</sup> Nearly 1 in 4 women may experience sexual violence by an intimate partner in their lifetime.<sup>2</sup> The cost of rape and sexual assault, excluding child sexual assault, per criminal victimization is \$87,000 per year. For the victim, the average rape or attempted rape costs \$5,100 in tangible, out-of-pocket expenses.<sup>3</sup> One in 4 girls and 1 in 6 boys will be sexually assaulted by the age of 18.<sup>4</sup> Many long-lasting physical symptoms and illness have been associated with sexual victimization including chronic pelvic pain; premenstrual syndrome; gastrointestinal disorders; and a variety of chronic pain disorders including headache, back pain, and facial pain.<sup>5</sup> Rape victims are more likely than non-victims to smoke cigarettes, overeat, drink alcohol, and are not likely to use seat belts.<sup>6</sup> In a study of elder female sexual abuse victims, 81 percent of the abuse was perpetrated by the victim's primary caregiver, and 78 percent by family members of which 39 percent were sons.<sup>7</sup> Of adult American women who are raped, 31.5 percent are physically injured, but only 35.6% of those who are injured received medical care.<sup>8</sup> Each year, it is estimated 25,000 American women will become pregnant following an act of sexual violence. As many as 22,000 of those pregnancies could be prevented through the prompt use of emergency contraception.<sup>9</sup>

1 Tjaden, P, Thoennes N. Full Report of the Prevalence, Incidence, and Consequences of Violence

Against Women: Findings from the National Violence Against Women Survey, Washington (DC): National Institute of Justice; 2000. Report NCJ 183781. 2 The World Health Report Fact Sheet on Sexual Violence, 2002. 3 Milled, Ted, et al. Victims Costs and Consequences: A New Look, National Institute of Justice Report, US Department of Justice, 1996. 4 Finkelhor, David, et al. "Sexual Abuse in a National Survey of Adult Men and Women: Prevalence, Characteristics and Risk Factors," Child Abuse and Neglect, 1990. 5 Koss, MP, Heslet L. "Somatic Consequences of Violence Against Women." Archives of Family Medicine, 1992. 6 Koss, MP, Koss, PG, Woodruff, W. "Deleterious Effects of Criminal Victimization on Women's Health and Medical Utilization." Archives of Internal Medicine, 1991. 7 Ramsey-Klawnsnik, Holly. "Elder Sexual Abuse: Preliminary Findings." Journal of Elder Abuse & Neglect, 1991. 8 Tjaden, P, Thoennes N. Ibid. 2000. 5 Page 2 of 3 There is at least a 50 percent likelihood that a woman will develop Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) after being raped. Sexual assault is also closely associated with depression and anxiety disorders.10 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.11 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.12 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.13 In 29% of rapes, the offender used a weapon.14 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.15 Rape or sexual assault was the violent crime least often reported to law enforcement (28%).16 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.17 13.3% of college women indicated that they had been forced to have sex in a dating situation.18 9 Stewart, Felicia and Trussel, James. "Prevention of Pregnancy Resulting from Rape." American Journal of Preventive Medicine, 2000. 10 "Populations Reports: Ending Violence Against Women" Populations Information Program, Center for Communication Programs. The Johns Hopkins University School of Public Health, December 1999. 11 Kilpatrick, DJ, Edmunds, CN and Seymour, A. 1992. Rape in America: A Report to the Nation, Arlington, VA: National Victim Center. 12 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. 13 Randall, Melanie and Haskell, Lori. 1995. "Sexual Violence in Women's Safety Project, A Community-Based Survey," Violence Against Women 1 (1): 6-31. 14 Violence Against Women, Bureau of Justice Statistics, US Department of Justice, 1994. 15 Ibid. 16 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. 17 Kirkpatrick, et al., 1992. 18 Johnson, I, Sigler R, 2000. "Forced Sexual Intercourse Among Intimates," Journal of Interpersonal Violence, 15(1). Page 3 of 3 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.19 Among developmentally disabled adults, as many as 83% of the females and 32% of the males are the victims of sexual assault.20 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.<sup>21</sup> Between 1/3 and 2/3 of known sexual assault victims are age 15 or younger.<sup>22</sup> 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.<sup>23</sup> 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.<sup>24</sup> Women with disabilities are raped and abused at a rate at least twice that of the general population of women.<sup>25</sup> An estimated 92,700 men are forcibly raped each year in the United States.<sup>26</sup> 77% of completed rapes are committed by someone who is known to the victim.<sup>27</sup>

– National Sexual Violence Resource Center 19 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. 20 Stimson, L and Best MC. "Courage Above All," *Sexual Assault Against Women with Disabilities*. Toronto Disabled Women's Network, Canada, 1991. 21 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. 22 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. 23 Anti Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Violence Report, New York City Gay & Lesbian Anti-Violence Project, 1996. 24 Warshaw, Robin. 1994. "I Never Called it Rape," *The Ms. Report on Recognizing, Fighting and Surviving Date & Acquaintance Rape*, New York: Harper Perennial. 25 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. 26 Tjaden and Thoennes, November 1998. 27 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.

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