

Sexual Assault Prevalence in Texas¹

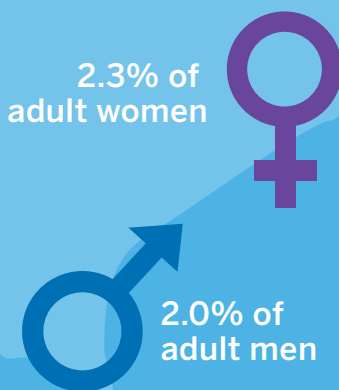
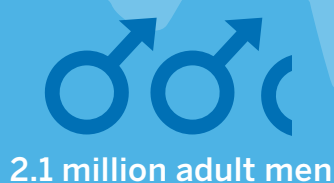
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Extent of the Problem

6.3 million Texans have experienced some form of sexual assault in their lifetime.

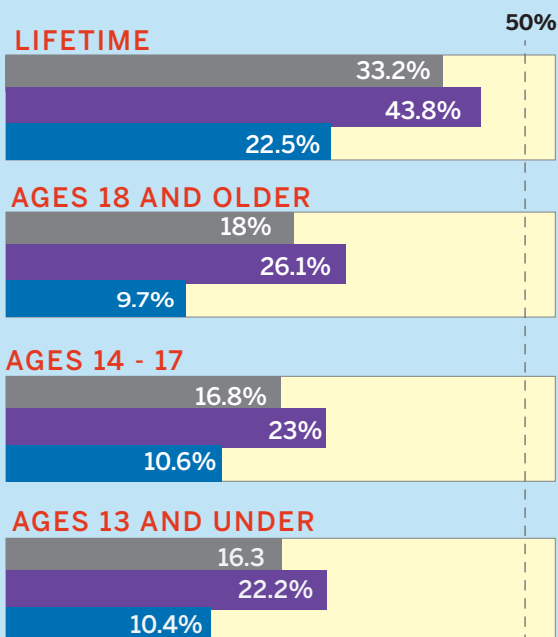
413,000 Texans have experienced some form of sexual assault in the last year.



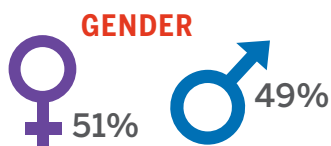
Gender & Age



■ Total ■ Female ■ Male



Who participated in the study?



SEXUAL ORIENTATION

Heterosexual	93.0%
Gay or Lesbian	1.6%
Identified as other	0.3%
Declined	5.1%

EDUCATION

Did not graduate from high school	13.0%
High school graduate	19.5%
Some college or vocational school	32.5%
4-year college degree	23.6%
Postgraduate degree	11.4%

RACE/ETHNICITY

White Non-Hispanic	51%
Hispanic	36%
African American	12%
Other	4%

Percentage may total more than 100 percent because participants could select more than one category

HOUSEHOLD INCOME

Under \$25,000	21.1%
\$25,000 to \$49,999	26.2%
\$50,000 to \$74,999	19.2%
\$75,000 or More	33.4%

¹ This study is funded by the Texas Department of State Health Services. The research working group included members from the Texas Department of State Health Services, Texas Association Against Sexual Assault, the Office of the Attorney General, and The Institute on Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault, The University of Texas at Austin.



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VICTIMIZATION SCREENING QUESTIONS

2003 Survey

- 5 questions that met Texas Penal Code
- Questions applied to all ages

2015 Survey

- 5 questions from 2003 survey that met Texas Penal Code
- 10 additional questions that met Texas Penal Code
- New questions applied to certain age groups

	2003 survey 5 questions	2015 survey 5 question subset	2015 complete survey original + new questions
Overall lifetime victimization rate	13.0%	18.3%	32.0%
Lifetime victimization rate — women	20.0%	27.6%	43.8%
Lifetime victimization rate — men	5.0%	8.6%	22.5%



Why are 2015 rates higher?

- Our science to accurately measure sexual assault over the last decade has evolved.
- We underestimated of sexual assault in Texas in 2003.
- An increase in public awareness in the past decade may mean that people think differently about their experiences with sexual assault.

Methodology



- Representative sample of 1,203 adult Texans
- Sample drawn randomly from landline (60%) and mobile phones (40%)
- Sampling error is +/- 2.8 percentage points at a 95% confidence level
- Weights include design effects for gender, ethnicity, and age
- Telephone interviewers collected data using closed ended questions with a specific survey protocol

RESEARCH TEAM

Institute on Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault
School of Social Work
The University of Texas at Austin

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Sexual assault survivors may be referred to as victims because this project is grounded in the criminal justice system. As researchers, our aim is to honor every person's choice in language to describe themselves and to name their experiences.

When using this data please use the following citation:

Busch-Armendariz, N.B., Olaya, D., Kerwick, M., Wachter, K. & Sulley C. (2015). Health and well-being: Texas statewide sexual assault prevalence. The University of Texas at Austin, Institute on Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault: Austin, Texas.



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Who are the Offenders?

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Lifetime Victimization Experiences*

** Percentages add to more than 100 % because some victims have experienced multiple assaults over their lifetime.*

Understanding the Offenders of Women

- Women are primarily sexually assaulted by men.
- 96% of women who have been assaulted report that their offenders were male.
- A significant minority of women report being victimized by a female offender (9%).
- Most women are victimized by someone related to them or in a very close relationship to them (61%). These relationships include spouses, dating partners, other members of their family, and other relatives.
- 52 % of women report that a male acquaintance or friend was the offender.
- About a third of women (34%) report that the offender was a male stranger.

Understanding the Offenders of Men

- Men are as likely to be victimized by women as they are by men.
- 53 % of men who have been assaulted report that their offenders were female and 55% report that their offenders were male.
- About 3 in 10 men report that someone in a very close relationship to them was their offender, including both males and females. These relationships include spouses, dating partners, other members of their family, and other relatives.
- Most men are victimized by an acquaintance or friend (60%), including both males and females.
- About 1 in 4 men report that their offender was a stranger, including both males and females.

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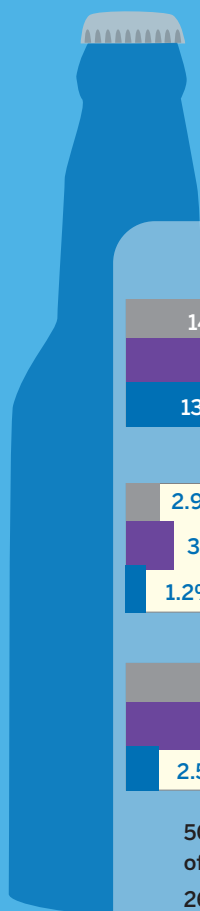
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Context & Collateral Violence

April 26, 2015

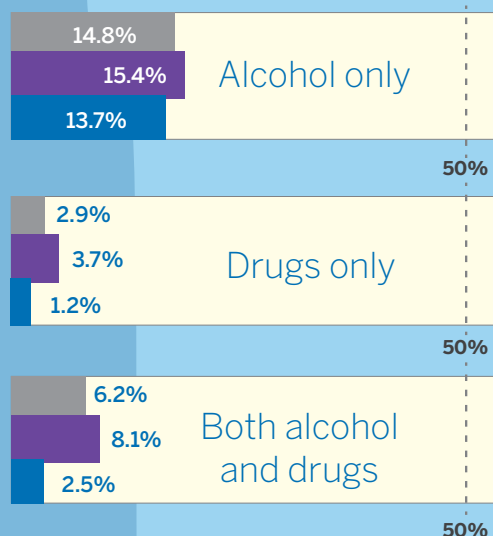
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Alcohol & Drug Use at the Time of Sexual Assault

All victims
 Female victims
 Male victims

Perpetrator use



50% of victims indicated that their offenders were not using alcohol or drugs
 26% of victims did not know if their offenders were using alcohol or drugs

All n=382 Female n=255 Male n=127

Victim use



84% were not using alcohol or drugs
 1% declined to answer

All n=383 Female n=255 Male n=128

*n=383

Other Collateral Violence*

	All Victims	Female Victims	Male Victims
Victim reported that the offender threatened to harm or kill her/him	12.3%	15.9%	5.2%
Victim believed she/he or someone close to her/him would be seriously harmed or killed	15.9%	21.2%	5.3%
Victim was physically injured	10.4%	14.8%	1.9%

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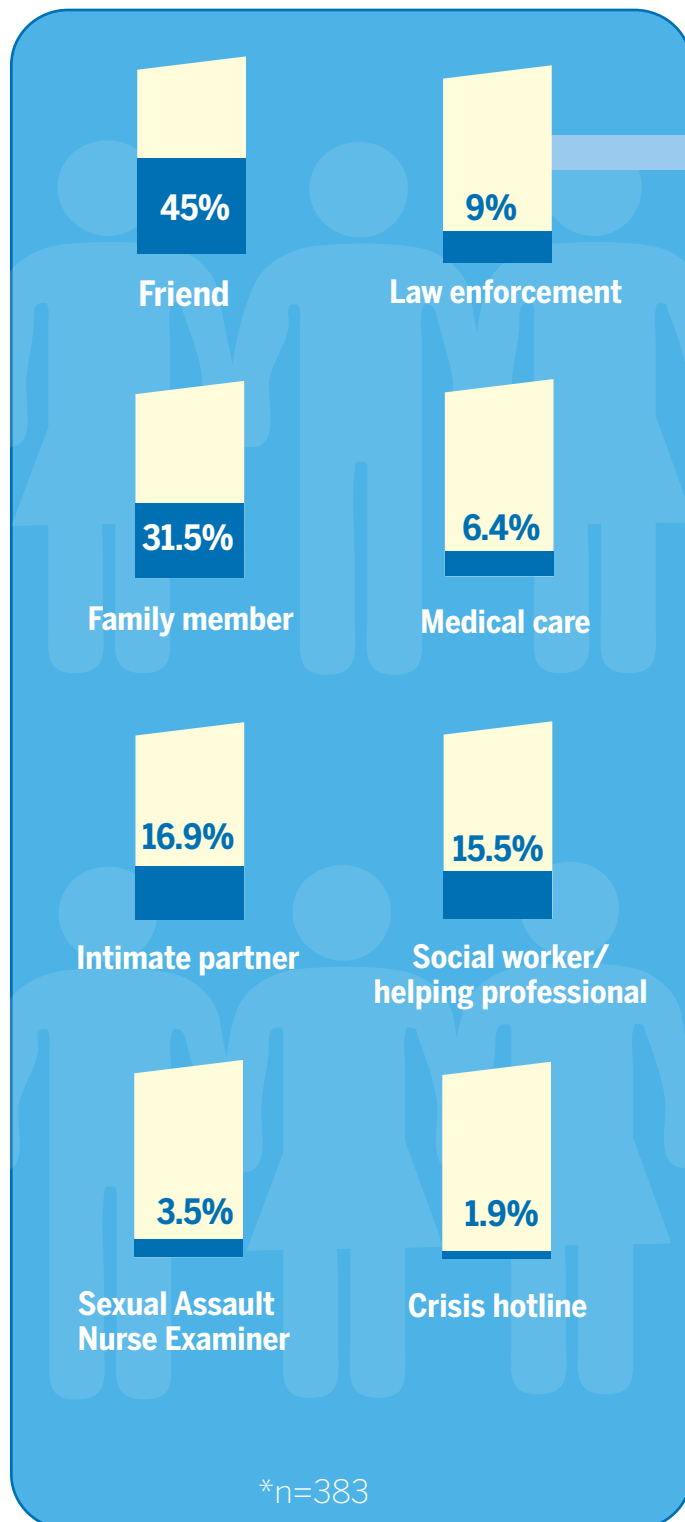


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Victims' Help Seeking after Sexual Assault*

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Top Reasons Victims Did Not Report to Law Enforcement

- Victims had difficulty defining their experience as a crime.
- Victims were too young to report their victimization to law enforcement.
- Victims were too scared to report.
- Victims chose to deal with the sexual assault themselves or ask their friends or family for help.
- Victims felt “stupid”, ashamed or embarrassed about what had happened to them.

Other Reasons Victims Gave for Not Reporting to Law Enforcement

- Victims wanted to forget about it and move on with their lives.
- Victims did not think they would be believed.
- Victims were prevented from reporting it.
- Victims thought that reporting it might jeopardize their employment.
- Victims blamed themselves.
- Victims worried about jeopardizing their immigration status.

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