### **HEALTH AND WELL-BEING:**

# Texas Statewide Sexual Assault Prevalence Study

FINAL REPORT INFOGRAPHICS August 2015



### COST AND PREVALENCE OF SEXUAL ASSAULT IN TEXAS\*



OF SEXUAL ASSAULT

**VICTIMS REPORT** MULTIPLE VICTIMIZATIONS.

ADULT TEXANS HAVE **EXPERIENCED SOME FORM** 

★ COSTS THE ★
STATE OF TEXAS

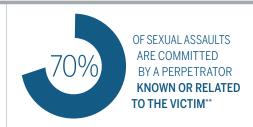
ANNUAL EXPENDITURES IN SERVICES FOR **VICTIMS** 

**COSTS EACH TEXAN** 



OF SEXUAL **ASSAULTS RESULT IN** PREGNANCY\*\*+

**OF VICTIMS REPORTED** TO LAW **ENFORCEMENT\*\*** 



### **FOOTNOTES**

- \* Costs are based on Busch-Armendariz et al. 2011
- \*\*These analyses are based on one victimization that victims chose to describe in detail and not based on all the sexual assaults reported by victims in this survey.
- + These analyses are base upon a small sample size therefore caution is warranted.

### RESEARCH TEAM

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

Dr. Noël Busch-Armendariz Principal Investigator

**Deidi Olaya-Rodriguez** *Research Project Director* 

Dr. Matt Kammer-Kerwick Research Scientist

Karin Wachter Research Team

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### MFTHODOLOGY

- 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
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### SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVALENCE IN TEXAS

EXTENT OF THE PROBLEM

6.3 MILLION
Adult Texans have experienced some form of sexual assault in their lifetime of sexual assault in their lifetime

2.2% ALL VICTIMS

FEMALE VICTIMS

413,000
Adult Texans experienced some form of sexual assault in the past year

2.2% ALL VICTIMS

FEMALE 2.3% MALE VICTIMS

65.2% Of victims report multiple victimizations

VICTIMIZATION BY GENDER AND AGE

• FEMALE VICTIMS

MALE VICTIMS

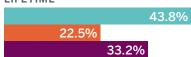
• ALL VICTIMS

2 IN 5 WOMEN

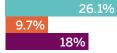




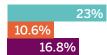
LIFETIME



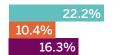
**AGES 18 AND OLDER** 



AGES 14-17



**AGES 13 AND UNDER** 



LIFETIME REPORT OF SEXUAL ASSAULT BY GENDER OF VICTIM

FEMALE PERPETRATORS
 MALE PERPETRATORS

MALE VICTIMS



**FEMALE VICTIMS** 



Percentages may sum to more than 100% because of multiple victimizations by both male and female perpetrators.

n=39

LIFETIME REPORT OF SEXUAL ASSAULT BY RELATIONSHIP TO PERPETRATOR\*

FEMALE VICTIMS
 MALE VICTIMS

STRANGER 34% 23.3%

PERSON OF AUTHORITY

4.8% 5.7%

Percentages may sum to more than 100% because of multiple assaults experienced by both male and female victims.

ACQUAINTANCE OR FRIEND

59.9%

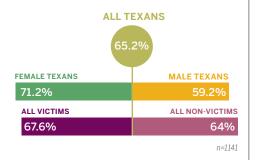
CLOSE RELATIONSHIP\*

52.2%

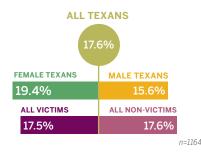
29.5%

n=399

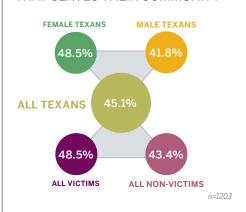
# THINK SEXUAL VIOLENCE IS A PROBLEM IN TEXAS\*\*



HAVE BEEN OR ARE CURRENTLY INVOLVED IN ONGOING EFFORTS TO END SEXUAL VIOLENCE IN THEIR COMMUNITY\*\*



KNOW OF A RAPE CRISIS CENTER THAT SERVES THEIR COMMUNITY<sup>+</sup>



#### UNDERSTANDING THE PERPETRATORS OF WOMEN

Women are primarily sexually assaulted by men.

93.7% of women report that their perpetrators were male and a significant minority of women (9%) report being victimized by a female offender.

Women are most vulnerable to sexual assault from someone they know and often trust.

53.3% of women report that an acquaintance or friend was the offender.

52.2% of women report that someone in a close relationship to them was their offender, including spouses, dating partners, family members, and relatives.

About a third of women, 34% report that the offender was a stranger.

#### UNDERSTANDING THE PERPETRATORS OF MEN

Men have an almost equal chance of being assaulted by either a woman or a man.

52.9% of men who have been assaulted report that their perpetrators were female.

54.7% of men report that their perpetrators were male.

Men are more likely than women to be victimized by an acquaintance or friend (59.9%).

Men are less likely than women to be assaulted by someone they have a close relationship with (29.5%).

#### VICTIMIZATION BY GENDER AND AGE

Sexual assault affects both men and women. Women are twice as likely to be sexually assaulted as men in their lifetimes, 43.8% compared to 22.5% respectively.

Women experience sexual assault at higher rates than men for every age group surveyed.

The highest prevalence rate of sexual assault for women occurs in the 18 and older age group; in contrast, men report higher sexual assault prevalence for ages 17 and under.

### **FOOTNOTES**

\*RELATIONSHIP DEFINITIONS: Stranger is defined as a person the victim never met or met in the 24 hours prior to the sexual assault. Acquaintance or friend is defined as friend, roommate, neighbor, parent of friend, family friend, co-worker, ex-coworker, co-volunteer, ex-co-volunteer, employee, ex-employee, classmate, or ex-classmate. Person of authority is defined as boss, supervisor, teacher, professor, instructor, coach, doctor, nurse, other health professional, faith leader, or landlord.

\*\*Participants responded to questions based on a 10 point scale where 10 means "very much true" and 1 means "not at all true." Analyses are based on reporting into one collapsed category where responses 8, 9 and 10 were summed.

 $+ On this \, question \, participant \, choices \, were \, "yes," \, "no," \, and, \, "don't \, know." \, Percentages \, are \, calculated \, on \, "yes" \, responses. \, and \, provides a contraction of the provides a contraction$ 

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### **COMPARING 2003 AND 2015 PREVALENCE IN TEXAS**

VICTIMIZATION SCREENING QUESTIONS

### **2003 SURVEY**

**5** questions that met 2003 Texas Penal Code

Questions applied to all ages

### **2015 SURVEY**

**5** questions from 2003 survey that met Texas Penal Code for 2003 and 2014

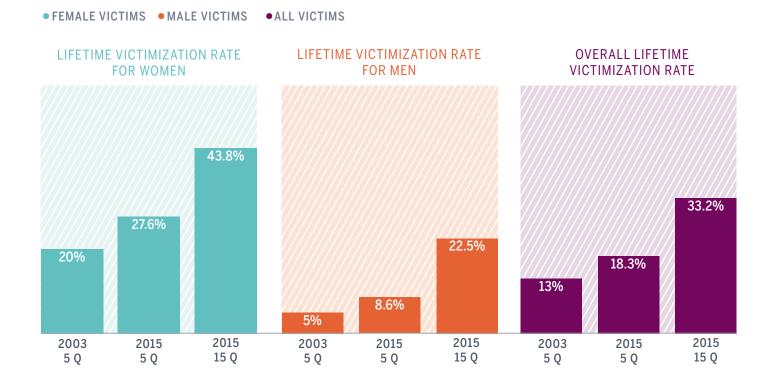
10 additional questions that met 2014 Texas Penal Code

New questions applied to certain age groups

### WHY ARE 2015 RATES SO MUCH HIGHER?

The increase of sexual assault victimization across all categories is likely a result of the expansion of the Texas Penal Code on sexual assault, better scientific methods for measuring sexual assault, an increase in knowledge and public awareness of sexual victimization, the willingness of Texans to identify their victimization, and an underestimation of the 2003 sexual assault data. There may also be other explanations for the increase.

Although direct comparisons should not be made, these data indicate that sexual assault should be a crime of great concern in the State of Texas, given its prevalence and impact upon Texans.



#### COMPARING 2003 AND 2015 PREVALENCE IN TEXAS

Determining sexual assault prevalence rates is complex. This study shows an increase in lifetime sexual assault prevalence over the past decade for all victim categories.

In 2003, five questions that met the 2003 state Penal Code for sexual assault crimes were used to estimate the prevalence of sexual assault in Texas.

In 2015, 15 questions that met the 2014 state Penal Code for sexual assault crimes were used to estimate the prevalence of sexual assault in Texas.

Given that ten new questions were added in 2015, only partial comparisons can be made about the prevalence rates in these two time periods.

Comparisons should be made using the five similar questions asked both years.

Victims often do not define their experiences as sexual assault. Therefore, this survey was designed to help identify if participants had ever been sexually assaulted. For this reason participants were asked 15 behavioral-based questions about unwanted sexual experiences, that occurred during three age periods: before the age of 14, between the ages of 14 and 17, and at age 18 and over. The victimization question were as follows:

#### Victimization questions in 2003

- 1. Made you have vaginal sex
- 2. Made you have anal sex
- 3. Made you have oral sex
- 4. Put their fingers or an object in your vagina or anus
- 5. Tried to have vaginal, oral or anal sex

Results indicate an increase in lifetime sexual assault victimization among adult Texans from 13% in the 2003 to 18.3% in 2015.

Women reported the greatest increase of sexual assault lifetime victimization, from 20% in 2003 to 27.6% in 2015.

#### Victimization questions in 2015

- 1. Made you have vaginal sex
- 2. Made you have anal sex
- 3. Made you have oral sex
- 4. Put their fingers or an object in your vagina or anus
- 5. Tried to have vaginal, oral or anal sex
- 6. Exposed their bodies parts to you, flashed you, or masturbated in front of you
- 7. Made you show your sexual body parts to them
- 8. Made you look at or participate in sexual photos or movies
- 9. Kissed you in a sexual way
- 10. Fondled, groped, grabbed, or touched you in a way that make you feel unsafe
- Pressured by doing things like telling you lies, making promises about the future they knew were untrue, threatening to end your relationship, or threatening to spread rumors about you
- 12. Wearing you down by repeatedly asking for sex, or showing they were unhappy
- 13. Using their influence or authority over you, for example, your boss or your teacher
- 14. Happened when you were drunk, high, drugged, or passed out and unable to consent
- 15. Unwanted sexual experiences under any other circumstances

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### WHO ARE THE PERPETRATORS?



The percentages for female and male victims sum to more than 100% because victims may have been assaulted multiple times and their perpetrators may include both males and females.

#### GENDER OF PERPETRATORS:

Male perpetrators commit the majority of sexual assaults, over 75% across all victim age categories. Victims age 14 to 17 (75.6%) report the lowest number of sexual assaults committed by male perpetrators.

Victims age 13 and under report the highest percentage of sexual assaults by both genders, with 80.9% by male perpetrators and 20.3% by female perpetrators.

#### \*RFI ATIONSHIP DFFINITIONS:

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Person of authority is defined as boss, supervisor, teacher, professor, instructor, coach, doctor, nurse, other health professional, faith leader, or landlord.

Close relationships is defined as spouses, ex-spouse, dating partner, ex-dating partner, other family members or relatives.

#### RFI ATIONSHIP TO PERPETRATOR:

Female perpetrators commission of sexual assault increases as the victims' age decreases, with the lowest report by victims' age 18 and older (17.4%).

The majority of lifetime sexual assaults are most likely to be committed by an acquaintance or friend of the victim (55.5%).

Women and men ages 18 and older (45.2%) and ages 14 to 17 (57.1%) were more likely to be victimized by someone they knew as an acquaintance or friend.

For young women and men age 13 and under (49.7%) the most likely perpetrator of sexual assault was someone with whom they had a close relationship, this includes family members and relatives.

Although a person of authority was less likely to perpetrate a sexual assault across all age categories, they posed the greatest risk (4.5%) to young women and men ages 14 to 17.

Women and men ages 18 and older were as likely to be victimized by a stranger (33.7%) as they were by someone they had a close relationship with (33.7%).

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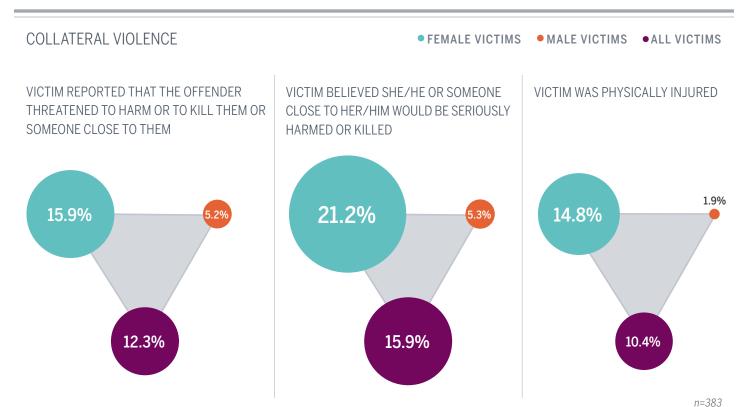
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### **VIOLENCE & USE OF WEAPONS DURING SEXUAL ASSAULT**



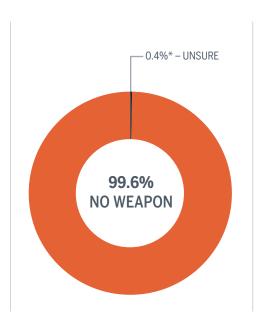


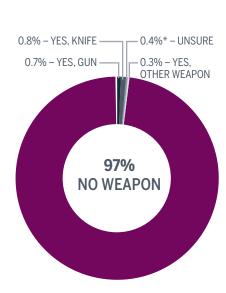
97%

**NO WEAPON** 

1.2% - YES, KNIFE -

1% - YES, GUN





FEMALE VICTIMS
 MALE VICTIMS
 ALL VICTIMS

n=384

These analyses are based on one victimization that victims chose to describe in detail and not based on all the sexual assaults reported by victims in this survey.

- 0.4%\* - UNSURE

OTHER WEAPON

0.5% - YES,

<sup>\*</sup> For an explanation of "unsure" see back under Highlights.

### VIOLENCE AND USE OF WEAPONS DURING SEXUAL ASSAULT

Weapons were not used during the occurrence of most sexual assaults in Texas, with almost 98% of all victims reporting no weapon use.

As a result of age, incapacitation or a trauma response victims (0.4%) may not be able to recall or may be unsure of whether a weapon was present.

Women are three times more likely than men to be threatened with harm to themselves or someone close to them.

Women have seven times the risk of being physically injured in comparison to men during their sexual assault experience.

When a weapon is used on a woman it is primarily a knife (1.2%) or a gun (1.0%).

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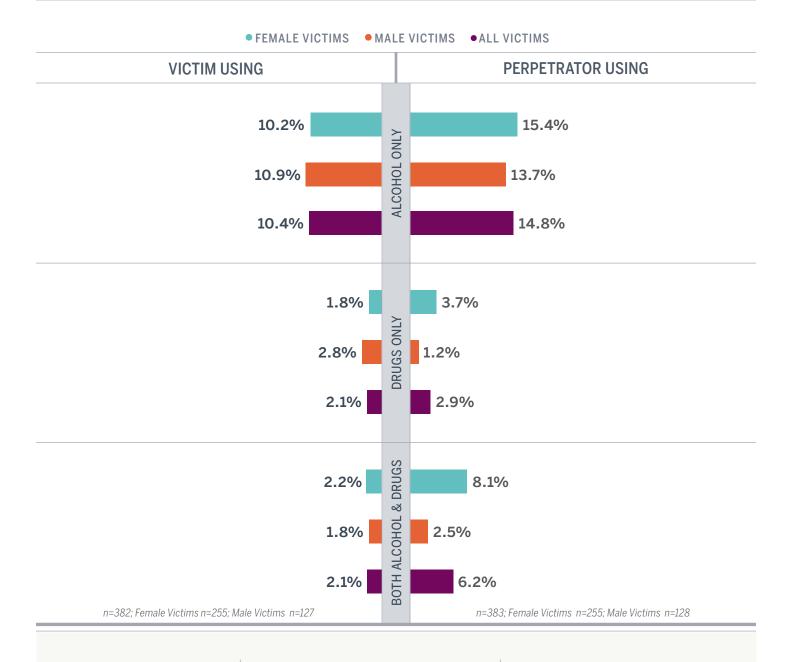
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### ALCOHOL & DRUG USE AT THE TIME OF SEXUAL ASSAULT



83.000 of victims were not using alcohol or drugs

1% declined to answer

49 8 % of victims indicated that the perpetrator was not using alcohol or drugs

of victims did not know if the perpetrator was using alcohol or drugs

**14.8%** of victims reported that the perpetrator was using alcohol during the sexual assault.

**13.7%** of victims reported they were incapacitated by a substance or asleep at the time of the sexual assault.

These analyses are based on one victimization that victims chose to describe in detail and not based on all the sexual assaults reported by victims in this survey.

# ALCOHOL & DRUG USE AT THE TIME OF SEXUAL ASSAULT

Alcohol was not a major contributing factor in the sexual assaults reported by this study for either the perpetrator or victim.

Victims reported that their perpetrators were using alcohol (14.8%) or a combination of alcohol and drug use (6.2%).

Alcohol use (10.4%) and alcohol combined with drug use (2.1%) was lower for victims.

Drug use "only" by perpetrator (2.9%) and victim (2.1%) is less common.

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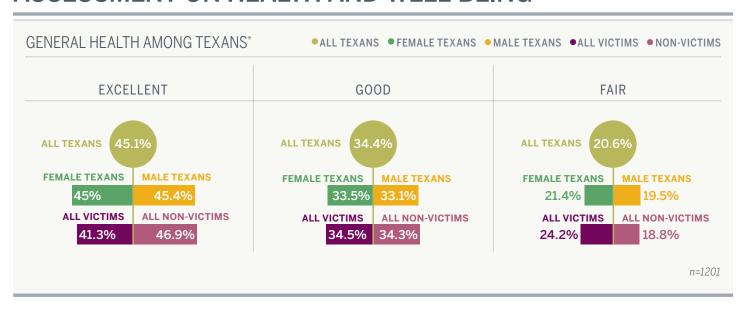
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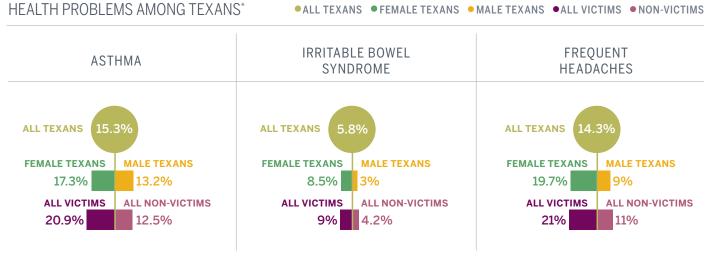
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### ASSESSMENT ON HEALTH AND WELL-BEING+







n=1203

<sup>+</sup> Percentage may not equal 100% because of rounding.

#### ASSESSMENT ON HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

It appears that sexual victimization negatively impacts the health and wellbeing of victims.

In Texas, victims report more health issues compared to non-victims from poorer health (5%) and twice as many incidences of irritable bowel syndrome (9%), frequent headaches (21%), chronic pain (20.3%) and higher rates of asthma (20.9%) and sleeping difficulties (28.4%).

### **FOOTNOTES**

\*Participants responded to questions based on a 5 point scale where 1 means "excellent," 2 "very good" 3 "good" 4 means "fair" 5 means "poor." Analyses are based on reporting into three collapsed categories (excellent/very good, good, fair/poor).

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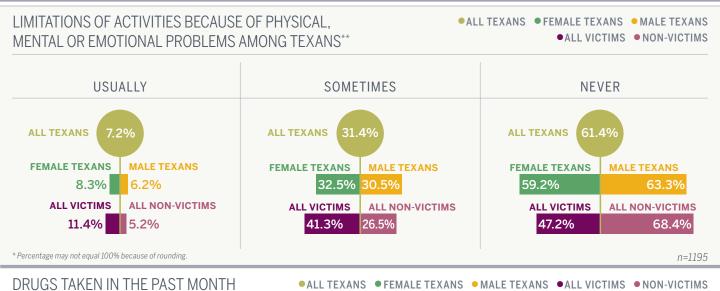
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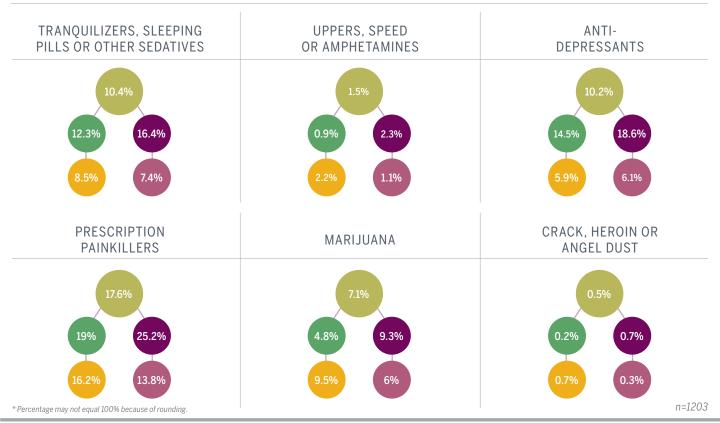
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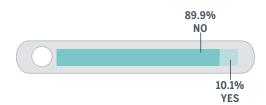
### IMPACT ON HEALTH AND WELL-BEING\*







SEXUAL ASSAULT THAT RESULTED IN PREGNANCY+‡



n=26

### IMPACT ON HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

It appears that sexual victimization negatively impacts the health and wellbeing of victims.

Limitations of activities due to physical and psychological problems are more likely for victims (11.4%) than non-victims (5.2%).

Legal and illicit drug use is reported more frequently for victims including the use of sedatives/sleeping pills (16.4%), anti-depressants (18.6%) and prescription painkillers (25.2%) compared to non-victims (7.4%, 6.1% and 13.8% respectively).

A significant minority of sexual assault victims report that their victimization resulted in pregnancy.

### **FOOTNOTES**

- \*\* Participants responded to questions based on a 5 point scale where 1 means "always," 2 "usually," 3 "sometimes," 4 "rarely," and 5 "never." Analyses are based on reporting into three collapsed categories (always/usually, sometimes/rarely, never).
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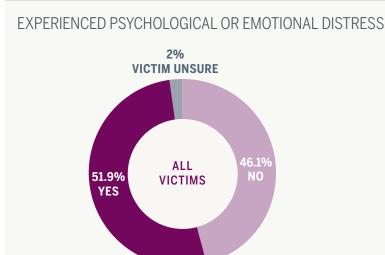
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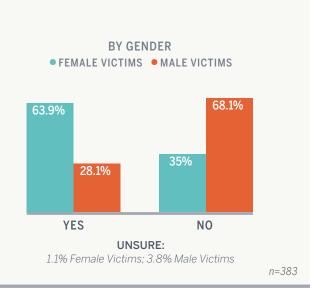
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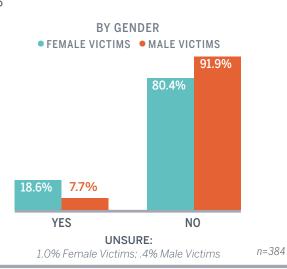
### IMPACT: DISRUPTION OF DAILY LIFE





#### HAD TO TAKE TIME OFF FROM SOCIAL/RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES

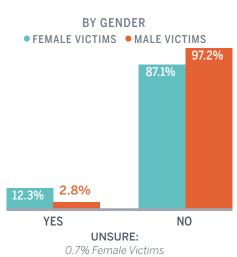




#### HAD TO TAKE TIME OFF FROM HOUSEHOLD RESPONSIBILITIES



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n=383

#### IMPACT: DISRUPTION OF DAILY LIFE

#### **Psychological Impact:**

Over half, 51.9%, of all sexual assault victims report psychological or emotional distress.

Women are more than twice as likely as men to experience psychological or emotional distress because of their sexual assault experience (63.9% to 28.1% respectively).

#### Social/Household Impact:

Women (18.6%) report higher rates of taking time off from social and recreational activities compared to men (7.7%) as a result of the sexual assault.

Women report taking more time off from household responsibilities (12.3%) than men (2.8%).

### RESEARCH TEAM

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Principal Investigator

### Deidi Olaya-Rodriguez

Research Project Director

#### Dr. Matt Kammer-Kerwick

Research Scientist

#### Karin Wachter

Research Team

#### Caitlin Sulley

Research Team

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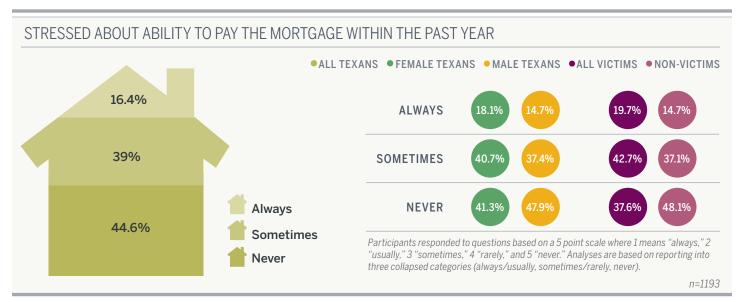
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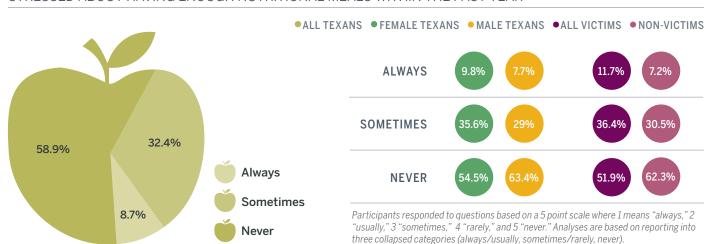
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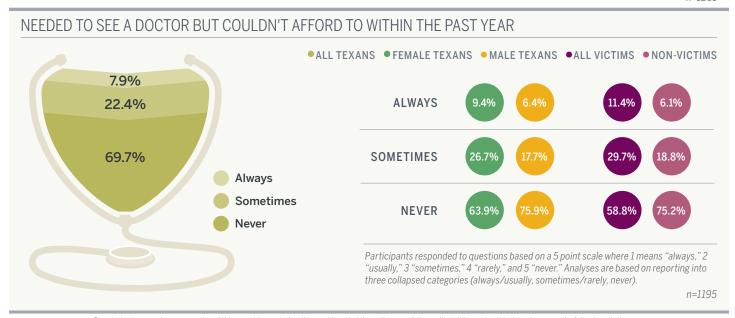
### **IMPACT: ECONOMIC HARDSHIP**



#### STRESSED ABOUT HAVING ENOUGH NUTRITIONAL MEALS WITHIN THE PAST YEAR



n=1201



#### IMPACT: ECONOMIC HARDSHIP

It appears that economic hardship affects women and victims more than men and non-victims.

Economic hardship was greater for victims of sexual assault compared to non-victims, and woman were more likely than men to report these findings.

Always being stressed over mortgage payments during the past year was more likely for victims (19.7%) and women (18.1%) compared to non-victims (14.7%) and men (14.7%).

Always being stressed about having enough nutritional meals was more likely for victims (11.7%) and women (9.8%) and less likely for non-victims (7.2%) and men (7.7%).

Never being unable to afford to see a physician was more common for men (75.9%) and non-victims (75.2%) in comparison to women (63.9%) and victims (58.8%).

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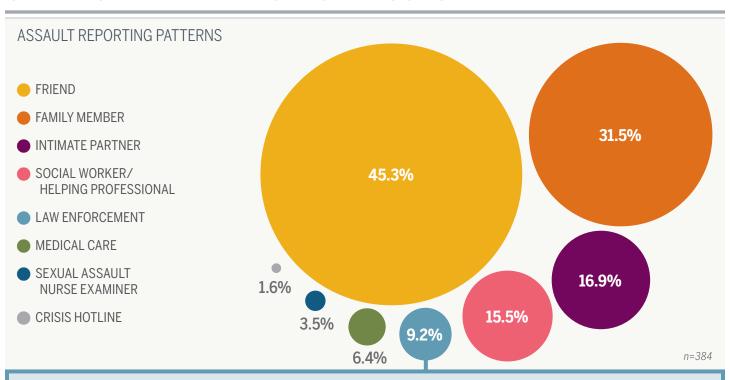
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### SEEKING HELP AFTER SEXUAL ASSAULT



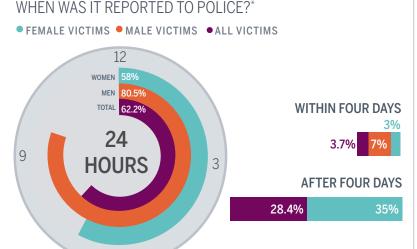
## TOP REASONS VICTIMS DID NOT REPORT TO LAW ENFORCEMENT

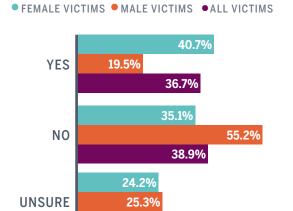
- Did not define their experience as a crime.
- Were too young to report their victimization to law enforcement.
- · Were too scared to report.
- Chose to deal with the sexual assault themselves or ask friends or family for help.
- Felt "stupid," ashamed, or embarrassed about what had happened to them.

### OTHER REASONS GIVEN

- · Wanted to forget about it and move on with their lives.
- · Did not think they would be believed.
- Were prevented from reporting it.
- Thought that reporting it might jeopardize their employment.
- · Blamed themselves.
- Worried about jeopardizing their immigration status.

WERE CRIMINAL CHARGES EVER FILED?\*





24 40

n = 35

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n = 35

#### SEEKING HELP AFTER SEXUAL ASSAULT

Women and men victimized by sexual assault turn to friends (45.3%) and family members (31.5%) for help, and are least likely to contact a crisis hotline (1.6%).

Intimate partners (16.9%) were seen as a support at a slightly greater rate than social workers and/or helping professionals (15.5%),

Victims sought help from the criminal justice and healthcare systems at a lower rate than personal supports. Law enforcement was only contacted by 9.2% of the victims and at a slightly higher rate than medical care providers (6.4%) and sexual assault nurse examiners (3.5%).

#### REPORTING AND FILING CHARGES:

If victims chose to report the sexual assault to police, 62.2% reported within 24-hours, 3.7% within four days and, 28.4% after four days.

Female victims (58%) were less likely than male victims (80.5%) to report to police within 24 hours of the assault.

Female victims reported that charges were filed more often (40.7%) than not (35.1%), whereas, male victims reported more often that charges were not filed (55.2% to 19.5%).

Nearly a quarter (24.4%) of all victims that reported to police were unsure whether criminal charges were ever filed.

### **FOOTNOTES**

- <sup>+</sup> These analyses are based on one victimization that victims chose to describe in detail and not based on all the sexual assaults reported by victims in this survey.
- \* These analyses are base upon a small sample size therefore caution is warranted.

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### WHO PARTICIPATED IN THIS STUDY

**GFNDFR** 50.6% **FEMALE TEXANS** n=1199

49.3% n=1199

SEXUAL ORIENTATION\*

93%

**HETEROSEXUAL** 

1.6%

**GAY OR LESBIAN** 

0.3%

**IDENTIFIED AS OTHER** 

5.1% DECLINED

n=1188

\*Percentages may total to more than 100% because participants could select more than one category.

RACE/ETHNICITY\*

50.9%

WHITE **NON-HISPANIC** 

36.1%

**HISPANIC** 

12.1%

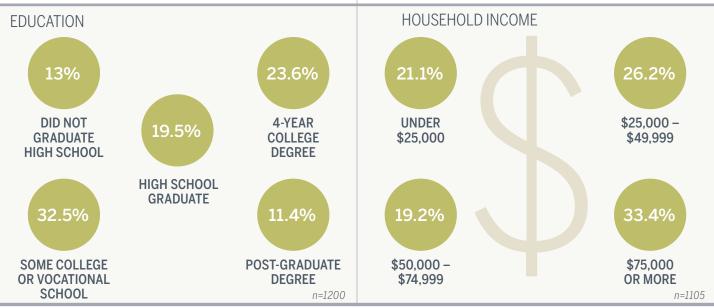
**AFRICAN AMERICAN** 

3.9%

ALL OTHER RACES/ **ETHNICITIES** 

n=1196

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PARTICIPANTS (OR THEIR PARTNERS) HAVE BEEN DEPLOYED TO A COMBAT ZONE OR HOSTILE REGION

**PARTICIPANT** WAS DEPLOYED

**32.5%**† PARTNER DEPLOYED

6.4% **BOTH DEPLOYED** \*\* n=1199 + n=108

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### LIFETIME SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVALENCE BY VICTIM DEMOGRAPHICS



# LIFETIME SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVALENCE BY VICTIM DEMOGRAPHICS

Sexual assault affects all racial and ethnic groups. African Americans report the highest incidents (36.8%) followed closely by Whites, non-Hispanic (35.2%) and Hispanics (27.9%), indicating all racial/ethnic groups are at risk for sexual assault.

The highest rate of sexual assault for women was reported by those with some college (49.4%) followed by women with graduate degrees (44.4%).

Participants with a high school education or less reported the lowest rates of sexual assault (25.4%).

All income groups are at risk for sexual assault with almost equal percentages reported for all income categories.

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