COST AND PREVALENCE OF SEXUAL ASSAULT IN TEXAS*

6.3 MILLION ADULT TEXANS HAVE EXPERIENCED SOME FORM OF SEXUAL ASSAULT IN THEIR LIFETIME

33.2% of all Texans

65.2% of victims report multiple victimizations.

413,000 ADULT TEXANS HAVE EXPERIENCED SOME FORM OF SEXUAL ASSAULT IN THE PAST YEAR

★ COSTS THE STATE OF TEXAS ★ $8 BILLION

$42.8 MILLION ANNUAL EXPENDITURES IN SERVICES FOR VICTIMS

★ COSTS EACH TEXAN ★ $340

97% of sexual assaults no weapon was used**

10% of sexual assaults result in pregnancy**

9.2% of victims reported to law enforcement**

70% of sexual assaults are committed by a perpetrator known or related to the victim**

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Sexual assault survivors are 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.

This project was funded by the Texas Department of State Health Services, Office of Title V & Family Health (Contract No.2014-045645). The opinions, findings, and conclusions expressed in this publication are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the Texas Department of State Health Services.

Working group members included: DSHS, TAASA, OAG, and IDVSA.
## Extent of the Problem

- **6.3 Million**
  - Adult Texans have experienced some form of sexual assault in their lifetime
  - **4.2 M** Female Victims
  - **2.1 M** Male Victims
- **413,000**
  - Adult Texans experienced some form of sexual assault in the past year
  - **2.2% ALL Texans**
  - **2.3% Female Victims**
  - **2% Male Victims**
- **65.2%**
  - of victims report multiple victimizations

### Victimization by Gender and Age

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Female Victims</th>
<th>Male Victims</th>
<th>All Victims</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lifetime</strong></td>
<td>22.5%</td>
<td>33.2%</td>
<td>43.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ages 18 and Older</td>
<td>9.7%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>26.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ages 14–17</td>
<td>10.6%</td>
<td>16.8%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ages 13 and Under</td>
<td>10.4%</td>
<td>16.3%</td>
<td>22.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Lifetime Report of Sexual Assault by Gender of Victim

#### Male Victims
- Stranger: 52.9%
- Acquaintance or Friend: 54.7%
- Person of Authority: 9%
- Close Relationship*: 93.7%

#### Female Victims
- Stranger: 9%
- Acquaintance or Friend: 93.7%
- Person of Authority: 5.7%
- Close Relationship*: 4.8%

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

### Think Sexual Violence is a Problem in Texas**

- **All Texans**: 65.2%
- **Female Texans**: 71.2%
- **All Victims**: 67.6%

### Have Been or Are Currently Involved in Ongoing Efforts to End Sexual Violence in Their Community**

- **All Texans**: 17.6%
- **Female Texans**: 19.4%
- **Male Texans**: 15.6%

### Know of a Rape Crisis Center That Serves Their Community**

- **All Texans**: 45.1%
- **Female Texans**: 48.5%
- **Male Texans**: 43.4%

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Sexual assault survivors are 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.

**Highlights**

- 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.

**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.

**Methodology**

- Representative sample of 1,203 adult Texans
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For more information about the Institute, please visit our website at: [https://socialwork.utexas.edu/cswr/institutes/idvs](https://socialwork.utexas.edu/cswr/institutes/idvs)

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# Comparing 2003 and 2015 Prevalence in Texas

## Victimization Screening Questions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2003 Survey</th>
<th>2015 Survey</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5 questions that met 2003 Texas Penal Code</td>
<td>5 questions from 2003 survey that met Texas Penal Code for 2003 and 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Questions applied to all ages</td>
<td>10 additional questions that met 2014 Texas Penal Code</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New questions applied to certain age groups</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## 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.

## Lifetime Victimization Rate

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Female Victims</th>
<th>Male Victims</th>
<th>All Victims</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lifetime Victimization Rate for Women</strong></td>
<td><strong>Lifetime Victimization Rate for Men</strong></td>
<td><strong>Overall Lifetime Victimization Rate</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003 5 Q 20%</td>
<td>2015 5 Q 27.6%</td>
<td>2015 15 Q 43.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003 5 Q 5%</td>
<td>2015 5 Q 8.6%</td>
<td>2015 15 Q 22.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003 5 Q 13%</td>
<td>2015 5 Q 18.3%</td>
<td>2015 15 Q 33.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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© 2015 The University of Texas at Austin School of Social Work Institute on Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault
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
11. 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

### Comparing 2003 and 2015 prevalence in Texas

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WHO ARE THE PERPETRATORS?

REPORT OF SEXUAL ASSAULT BY AGE OF VICTIM AND GENDER OF PERPETRATOR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VICTIMS AGE 13 AND UNDER</th>
<th>VICTIMS AGE 14 TO 17</th>
<th>VICTIMS AGE 18 AND OLDER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FEMALE PERPETRATORS</td>
<td>MALE PERPETRATORS</td>
<td>FEMALE PERPETRATORS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20.3%</td>
<td>80.9%</td>
<td>18.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

REPORT OF SEXUAL ASSAULT BY RELATIONSHIP TO PERPETRATOR AND AGE OF VICTIM*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VICTIMS AGE 13 AND UNDER</th>
<th>VICTIMS AGE 14 TO 17</th>
<th>VICTIMS AGE 18 AND OLDER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CLOSE RELATIONSHIP</td>
<td>ACQUAINTANCE OR FRIEND</td>
<td>PERSON OF AUTHORITY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FEMALE VICTIMS</td>
<td>MALE VICTIMS</td>
<td>ALL VICTIMS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>49.7%</td>
<td>53.2%</td>
<td>2.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38.8%</td>
<td>34.6%</td>
<td>4.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33.7%</td>
<td>38.2%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29%</td>
<td>37.6%</td>
<td>4.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>57.1%</td>
<td>56.8%</td>
<td>4.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45.2%</td>
<td>31.9%</td>
<td>3.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44.6%</td>
<td>52.2%</td>
<td>5.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55.5%</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
<td>4.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.9%</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
<td>5.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.
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

Caitlin Sulley
Research Team

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.

*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.

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

RELATIONSHIP TO PERPETRATOR:

Female perpetrators commission of sexual assault increases as the victim’s 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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VIOLENCE & USE OF WEAPONS DURING SEXUAL ASSAULT

COLLATERAL VIOLENCE

- Victim reported that the offender threatened to harm or to kill them or someone close to them
- Victim believed she/he or someone close to her/him would be seriously harmed or killed
- Victim was physically injured

- Female Victims
- Male Victims
- All Victims

USE OF A WEAPON DURING ASSAULT

- Female Victims
- Male Victims
- All Victims

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.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Victim Using</th>
<th>Perpetrator Using</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>FEMALE VICTIMS</strong></td>
<td><strong>MALE VICTIMS</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.2%</td>
<td>15.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.9%</td>
<td>13.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.4%</td>
<td>14.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>FEMALE VICTIMS</strong></th>
<th><strong>MALE VICTIMS</strong></th>
<th><strong>ALL VICTIMS</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.8%</td>
<td>3.7%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.8%</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.1%</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>FEMALE VICTIMS</strong></th>
<th><strong>MALE VICTIMS</strong></th>
<th><strong>ALL VICTIMS</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.2%</td>
<td>8.1%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.8%</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.1%</td>
<td>6.2%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **83.9%** of victims were not using alcohol or drugs
- **49.8%** of victims indicated that the perpetrator was not using alcohol or drugs
- **26.2%** 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.

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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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## ASSESSMENT ON HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

### GENERAL HEALTH AMONG TEXANS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Health Status</th>
<th>All Texans</th>
<th>Female Texans</th>
<th>Male Texans</th>
<th>Non-Victims</th>
<th>Victims</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>45.1%</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>45.4%</td>
<td>46.9%</td>
<td>41.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good</td>
<td>34.4%</td>
<td>33.5%</td>
<td>33.1%</td>
<td>34.5%</td>
<td>34.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fair</td>
<td>20.6%</td>
<td>21.4%</td>
<td>19.5%</td>
<td>24.2%</td>
<td>18.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### HEALTH PROBLEMS AMONG TEXANS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Health Problem</th>
<th>All Texans</th>
<th>Female Texans</th>
<th>Male Texans</th>
<th>Non-Victims</th>
<th>Victims</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Asthma</td>
<td>15.3%</td>
<td>17.3%</td>
<td>13.2%</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
<td>20.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irritable Bowel Syndrome</td>
<td>5.8%</td>
<td>8.5%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frequent Headaches</td>
<td>14.3%</td>
<td>19.7%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Health Problem</th>
<th>All Texans</th>
<th>Female Texans</th>
<th>Male Texans</th>
<th>Non-Victims</th>
<th>Victims</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chronic Pain</td>
<td>13.3%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>11.7%</td>
<td>9.9%</td>
<td>20.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Difficulty Sleeping</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>16.9%</td>
<td>15.8%</td>
<td>28.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

+ Percentage may not equal 100% because of rounding.
HIGHLIGHTS

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%).

METHODODOLOGY

- Representative sample of 1,203 adult Texans
- Sample drawn randomly from landline (60%) and mobile phones (40%)
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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

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).
**IMPACT ON HEALTH AND WELL-BEING**

### LIMITATIONS OF ACTIVITIES BECAUSE OF PHYSICAL, MENTAL OR EMOTIONAL PROBLEMS AMONG TEXANS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Usually</th>
<th>Sometimes</th>
<th>Never</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ALL TEXANS</strong></td>
<td>7.2%</td>
<td>31.4%</td>
<td>61.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FEMALE TEXANS</strong></td>
<td>8.3%</td>
<td>32.5%</td>
<td>59.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MALE TEXANS</strong></td>
<td>6.2%</td>
<td>30.5%</td>
<td>63.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ALL VICTIMS</strong></td>
<td>11.4%</td>
<td>41.3%</td>
<td>47.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ALL NON-VICTIMS</strong></td>
<td>5.2%</td>
<td>26.5%</td>
<td>68.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Percentage may not equal 100% because of rounding.

### DRUGS TAKEN IN THE PAST MONTH

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>ALL TEXANS</th>
<th>FEMALE TEXANS</th>
<th>MALE TEXANS</th>
<th>ALL VICTIMS</th>
<th>NON-VICTIMS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>TRANQUILIZERS, SLEEPING PILLS OR OTHER SEDATIVES</strong></td>
<td>10.4%</td>
<td>12.3%</td>
<td>8.5%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>16.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>16.4%</td>
<td>16.4%</td>
<td>7.4%</td>
<td>25.2%</td>
<td>23.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8.5%</td>
<td>8.5%</td>
<td>7.4%</td>
<td>13.8%</td>
<td>11.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **UPPERS, SPEED OR AMPHETAMINES** | 1.5% | 0.9% | 2.3% | 2.2% | 1.1% | 0.5% |
|                                  | 1.1% | 0.2% | 0.7% | 0.3% | 0.2% | 0.7% |

| **ANTI-DEPRESSANTS** | 10.2% | 14.5% | 18.6% | 5.9% | 6.1% |
|                      | 5.9%  | 5.9%  | 6.1%  | 2.2% | 2.2% |

### LIMITATIONS OF ACTIVITIES BECAUSE OF PHYSICAL, MENTAL OR EMOTIONAL PROBLEMS AMONG TEXANS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>ALL TEXANS</th>
<th>FEMALE TEXANS</th>
<th>MALE TEXANS</th>
<th>ALL VICTIMS</th>
<th>NON-VICTIMS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>TRANQUILIZERS, SLEEPING PILLS OR OTHER SEDATIVES</strong></td>
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<td>12.3%</td>
<td>8.5%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>16.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>16.4%</td>
<td>16.4%</td>
<td>7.4%</td>
<td>25.2%</td>
<td>23.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8.5%</td>
<td>8.5%</td>
<td>7.4%</td>
<td>13.8%</td>
<td>11.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **UPPERS, SPEED OR AMPHETAMINES** | 1.5% | 0.9% | 2.3% | 2.2% | 1.1% | 0.5% |
|                                  | 1.1% | 0.2% | 0.7% | 0.3% | 0.2% | 0.7% |

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|                      | 5.9%  | 5.9%  | 6.1%  | 2.2% | 2.2% |

### DRUGS TAKEN IN THE PAST MONTH

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>ALL TEXANS</th>
<th>FEMALE TEXANS</th>
<th>MALE TEXANS</th>
<th>ALL VICTIMS</th>
<th>NON-VICTIMS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>TRANQUILIZERS, SLEEPING PILLS OR OTHER SEDATIVES</strong></td>
<td>10.4%</td>
<td>12.3%</td>
<td>8.5%</td>
<td>19%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>16.4%</td>
<td>16.4%</td>
<td>7.4%</td>
<td>25.2%</td>
<td>23.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8.5%</td>
<td>8.5%</td>
<td>7.4%</td>
<td>13.8%</td>
<td>11.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **UPPERS, SPEED OR AMPHETAMINES** | 1.5% | 0.9% | 2.3% | 2.2% | 1.1% | 0.5% |
|                                  | 1.1% | 0.2% | 0.7% | 0.3% | 0.2% | 0.7% |

| **ANTI-DEPRESSANTS** | 10.2% | 14.5% | 18.6% | 5.9% | 6.1% |
|                      | 5.9%  | 5.9%  | 6.1%  | 2.2% | 2.2% |

### SEXUAL ASSAULT THAT RESULTED IN PREGNANCY**

*Percentage may not equal 100% because of rounding.

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HIGHLIGHTS

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).

+ These analyses are based upon a small sample size therefore caution is warranted.

‡ 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.

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IMPACT: DISRUPTION OF DAILY LIFE

EXPERIENCED PSYCHOLOGICAL OR EMOTIONAL DISTRESS

BY GENDER

FEMALE VICTIMS
MALE VICTIMS

63.9%
68.1%

28.1%
35%

46.1%
51.9%

2%
VICTIM UNSURE

ALL VICTIMS

46.1%
YES

51.9%
NO

14.9%
YES

HAD TO TAKE TIME OFF FROM SOCIAL/RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES

BY GENDER

FEMALE VICTIMS
MALE VICTIMS

91.9%
80.4%

18.6%
7.7%

14.9%
YES

9.1%
NO

HAD TO TAKE TIME OFF FROM HOUSEHOLD RESPONSIBILITIES

BY GENDER

FEMALE VICTIMS
MALE VICTIMS

97.2%
87.1%

12.3%
2.8%

9.1%
YES

7.7%
NO

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.
HIGHLIGHTS

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%).

METHODODOLOGY

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IMAGES: ECONOMIC HARDSHIP

STRESSED ABOUT ABILITY TO PAY THE MORTGAGE WITHIN THE PAST YEAR

- **ALL TEXANS**
  - **ALWAYS**: 18.1%
  - **SOMETIMES**: 40.7%
  - **NEVER**: 41.3%

- **FEMALE TEXANS**
  - **ALWAYS**: 14.7%
  - **SOMETIMES**: 37.4%
  - **NEVER**: 47.9%

- **MALE TEXANS**
  - **ALWAYS**: 19.7%
  - **SOMETIMES**: 37.1%
  - **NEVER**: 48.1%

- **ALL VICTIMS**
  - **ALWAYS**: 14.7%
  - **SOMETIMES**: 40.7%
  - **NEVER**: 41.3%

- **NON-VICTIMS**
  - **ALWAYS**: 19.7%
  - **SOMETIMES**: 37.1%
  - **NEVER**: 48.1%

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).

n=1193

STRESSED ABOUT HAVING ENOUGH NUTRITIONAL MEALS WITHIN THE PAST YEAR

- **ALL TEXANS**
  - **ALWAYS**: 9.8%
  - **SOMETIMES**: 35.6%
  - **NEVER**: 54.5%

- **FEMALE TEXANS**
  - **ALWAYS**: 7.7%
  - **SOMETIMES**: 29%
  - **NEVER**: 63.4%

- **MALE TEXANS**
  - **ALWAYS**: 11.7%
  - **SOMETIMES**: 36.4%
  - **NEVER**: 51.9%

- **ALL VICTIMS**
  - **ALWAYS**: 7.7%
  - **SOMETIMES**: 29%
  - **NEVER**: 63.4%

- **NON-VICTIMS**
  - **ALWAYS**: 11.7%
  - **SOMETIMES**: 36.4%
  - **NEVER**: 51.9%

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).

n=1201

NEEDED TO SEE A DOCTOR BUT COULDN'T AFFORD TO WITHIN THE PAST YEAR

- **ALL TEXANS**
  - **ALWAYS**: 9.4%
  - **SOMETIMES**: 26.7%
  - **NEVER**: 63.9%

- **FEMALE TEXANS**
  - **ALWAYS**: 6.4%
  - **SOMETIMES**: 17.7%
  - **NEVER**: 75.9%

- **MALE TEXANS**
  - **ALWAYS**: 11.4%
  - **SOMETIMES**: 29.7%
  - **NEVER**: 58.8%

- **ALL VICTIMS**
  - **ALWAYS**: 6.4%
  - **SOMETIMES**: 17.7%
  - **NEVER**: 75.9%

- **NON-VICTIMS**
  - **ALWAYS**: 6.1%
  - **SOMETIMES**: 18.8%
  - **NEVER**: 75.2%

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).

n=1195

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HIGHLIGHTS

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%).

METHODOLOGY

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SEEKING HELP AFTER SEXUAL ASSAULT

ASSAULT REPORTING PATTERNS

- FRIEND
- FAMILY MEMBER
- INTIMATE PARTNER
- SOCIA WORKER/HELPING PROFESSIONAL
- LAW ENFORCEMENT
- MEDICAL CARE
- SEXUAL ASSAULT NURSE EXAMINER
- CRISIS HOTLINE

- 45.3%
- 31.5%
- 16.9%
- 9.2%
- 6.4%
- 3.5%
- 1.6%

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.

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.

WHEN WAS IT REPORTED TO POLICE?

- WITHIN FOUR DAYS
  - WOMEN: 58%
  - MEN: 80.5%
  - TOTAL: 62.2%

- AFTER FOUR DAYS
  - WOMEN: 24%
  - MEN: 35%

WERE CRIMINAL CHARGES EVER FILED?

- WITHIN FOUR DAYS
  - YES: 19.5%
  - NO: 35.1%
  - UNSURE: 24.2%

- AFTER FOUR DAYS
  - YES: 36.7%
  - NO: 38.9%
  - UNSURE: 25.3%
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

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### WHO PARTICIPATED IN THIS STUDY

#### GENDER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>N</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Female Texans</td>
<td>50.6%</td>
<td>1199</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male Texans</td>
<td>49.3%</td>
<td>1199</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### SEXUAL ORIENTATION*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Orientation</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Heterosexual</td>
<td>93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gay or Lesbian</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Identified As Other</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Declined</td>
<td>5.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### RACE/ETHNICITY*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race/Ethnicity</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White Non-Hispanic</td>
<td>50.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>36.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>African American</td>
<td>12.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Other Races/Ethnicities</td>
<td>3.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### EDUCATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Education</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>N</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Did Not Graduate High School</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>1200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High School Graduate</td>
<td>19.5%</td>
<td>1200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some College or Vocational School</td>
<td>32.5%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-Year College Degree</td>
<td>23.6%</td>
<td>1200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post-Graduate Degree</td>
<td>11.4%</td>
<td>1200</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

#### HOUSEHOLD INCOME

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>N</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Under $25,000</td>
<td>21.1%</td>
<td>1105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$25,000 – $49,999</td>
<td>26.2%</td>
<td>1105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$50,000 – $74,999</td>
<td>19.2%</td>
<td>1105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$75,000 or More</td>
<td>33.4%</td>
<td>1105</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>N</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participant Deployed</td>
<td>61.1%</td>
<td>1199</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partner Deployed</td>
<td>32.5%</td>
<td>108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Both Deployed</td>
<td>6.4%</td>
<td>108</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Percentages may total to more than 100% because participants could select more than one category.
Sexual assault survivors are 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.

Working group members included: DSHS, TAASA, OAG, and IDVSA.

This project was funded by the Texas Department of State Health Services, Office of Title V & Family Health (Contract No.2014-045645). The opinions, findings, and conclusions expressed in this publication are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the Texas Department of State Health Services.
# LIFETIME SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVALENCE BY VICTIM DEMOGRAPHICS

## Race/Ethnicity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race/Ethnicity</th>
<th>Female Victims</th>
<th>Male Victims</th>
<th>All Victims</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White Non-Hispanic</td>
<td>48.3%</td>
<td>21.7%</td>
<td>35.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>34.6%</td>
<td>21.2%</td>
<td>27.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>African American</td>
<td>48.5%</td>
<td>23.6%</td>
<td>36.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>34.6%</td>
<td>40.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Percentages may total to more than 100% because participants could select more than one category. n=399

## Education

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Education</th>
<th>Female Victims</th>
<th>Male Victims</th>
<th>All Victims</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HS or Less</td>
<td>36.1%</td>
<td>17.1%</td>
<td>25.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some College</td>
<td>49.4%</td>
<td>25.3%</td>
<td>38.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College Degree</td>
<td>44.2%</td>
<td>24.3%</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grad Degree</td>
<td>44.4%</td>
<td>29.3%</td>
<td>36.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Percentages may total to more than 100% because participants could select more than one category. n=398

## Income

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income</th>
<th>Female Victims</th>
<th>Male Victims</th>
<th>All Victims</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than $25K</td>
<td>45.8%</td>
<td>19.4%</td>
<td>34.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$25K — $49K</td>
<td>46.1%</td>
<td>24.9%</td>
<td>34.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$50K — 74K</td>
<td>39.6%</td>
<td>22.8%</td>
<td>31.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$75K and Up</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>33.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Percentages may total to more than 100% because participants could select more than one category. n=374
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.

RESEARCH TEAM
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School of Social Work, The University of Texas at Austin

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Research Scientist
Karin Wachter
Research Team
Caitlin Sulley
Research Team

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
• Specific information about sexual assault experiences is based on only one particular incident that victims chose to talk about

Sexual assault survivors are 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.

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The University of Texas at Austin
Institute on Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault
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For more information about the Institute, please visit our website at: https://socialwork.utexas.edu/cswr/institutes/idvsa