

Facts About Sexual Assault

National Statistics

(Data Available at: RAINN, Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network, <http://rainn.org> and Sexual Assault Statistics, Men Against Sexual Assault, <http://www.sa.rochester.edu/masa/stats.php>)

1 out of every 6 women have been the victims of an attempted or a completed rape in their life time (14.8% completed rape; 2.8% attempted rape)

17.7 million American women have been victims of attempted or completed sexual assault.

9 out of every 10 sexual assault survivors were female in 2003.

3% of American men (1 in 33) have experienced and attempted or completed rape in their life-time.

15% of sexual assault and rape survivors are under age 12.

Every 2 minutes, someone in the United States is sexually assaulted.

Almost 2/3 of rapes were completed by someone known to the victim.

50% of all rape/sexual assault incidents were reported by survivors to have occurred within 1 mile of their home.

Sexual assault is one of the most underreported crimes, with 60% still being left unreported.

If a rape is reported, there is a 50% chance of an arrest.

If there is a felony conviction, there is a 69% chance the convict will spend time in jail

Factoring in unreported rapes, about 6% of rapists will ever spend a day jail

15 out of 16 walk free

80% of sexual assault survivors will suffer from chronic physical or psychological conditions over time.

Massachusetts Statistics

(Data available at: <http://www.mass.gov/dph/sexualassaultservices>)

Among survivors reported to Mass. Rape Crisis Centers and a Spanish language helpline/hotline in 2007:

Survivor Demographic:

- ❖ 93% were female
- ❖ Age at the time of assault ranged from 1- 80 years
- ❖ 94% were heterosexual
- ❖ 65% were white, 18% Hispanic/Latino, 10% Black, 3% Asian, 4% identifying in several other racial categories

Location of Assault: 45% of the assaults were in the survivors' homes

Source of Disclosure: In addition to reporting to Rape Crisis Centers, some survivors had told family (44%), friends (35%), police (33%), medical professionals (27%), and/or a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE nurse; 24%)

Relationship to Perpetrator:

- ❖ 26% of perpetrators were a current or ex-spouse, partner, date, boyfriend or girlfriend
- ❖ 25% of perpetrators were a friend or acquaintance
- ❖ 20% of perpetrators were a parent, step-parent, sibling, or other relative
- ❖ 14% of perpetrators were a stranger
- ❖ 6% of perpetrators were a person known less than 24 hours

Medical Services Sought: 47% sought medical attention, 34% had forensic evidence collected