



Sexual Assault Fact Sheet

What is Sexual Assault?

Sexual assault is any unwanted, non-consensual sexual contact against any individual by another using manipulation, pressure, tricks, coercion or physical force. It is any act a person is forced to perform or receive that includes touching of the genitals or breasts. This includes rape, sodomy, touching or oral sex where the victim is unwilling or unable to give verbal consent, including being under 17 years old, intoxicated, drugged or unconscious.

If you have experienced sexual assault you may feel frightened, angry, ashamed, hopeless, numb or combination of these emotions. These are normal responses and you are alone. It is not your fault. You can call our 24-hour Rape Crisis Hotline at 281-342-HELP (4357) to speak with an advocate. Supportive counseling can be an effective way to learn about the assault and your options.

Sexual Violence includes:

- Completed act of penetration - any penetration of the vagina, anus, or other body orifice by any object
- Attempted act of penetration
- Abusive sexual contact and intentional touching
- Non-contact sexual abuse such as voyeurism, exhibitionism, verbal or behavioral sexual harassment, threats or sexual violence, taking or posting sexual photos

Other terms commonly used:

- Sexual violence
- Rape
- Date rape
- Marital rape
- Incest

- Sexual abuse
- Molestation

Facts about Sexual Assault

- Nearly 13 percent of Texans have been sexually assaulted. That equates to almost 2 million people, or one in 5 women and one in 20 men.
- In the United States, one in six women and one in 33 men reported experiencing an attempted or completed rape at some time in their lives.
- Females are the most frequent victims of sexual assault; however, men and boys are victims of sexual violence.*
- Women in college are particularly vulnerable: 20 percent to 25 percent of women in college reported experiencing an attempted or a completed rape.
- Similarly, males are victimized most frequently before age 18.
- 60.4 percent of female and 69.2 percent of male victims were first raped before age 18.
- 25.5 percent of females were first raped before age 12, and 34.9 percent were first raped between the ages of 12-17.
- 41.0 percent of males were first raped before age 12, and 27.9 percent were first raped between the ages of 12-17.
- Most sexual assaults are never reported to law enforcement.

**Texas Association of Sexual Assault. Visit www.taasa.org for additional information and resources.*