



FACT SHEET

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SEXUAL ASSAULT QUICK FACTS U.S. STATISTICS

- Rape is the fastest growing violent crime in the United States.
- In the United States, a rape is reported every 6 minutes. However, the FBI estimates that the actual number of sexual assaults committed could be as much as 10 times higher than those actually reported to law enforcement.
- National statistics show that one out of every three girls and one in six boys will be the victim of sexual assault before the age of eighteen. (Russel, Diana. *The Incidence and Prevalence of Sexual Abuse of Female Children*, 1988)
- One in fifteen girls become pregnant, and one in fifteen girls contract sexually transmitted diseases as a result of rape. (Koss, Woodruff, Koss study, 1990)
- Between 60% and 80% of all rapes are committed by someone the victim knows and 57% of all sexual assaults occur during a date. (Koss, Woodruff, Koss study, 1990)
- Only 3% of all rapists are ever convicted of their crime. Of the 10% of rapes that are reported, arrests are made in only 51% of the cases reported.
- Convicted rapists have a recidivism rate of 67%.
- Weapons are used in less than half of the reported rapes. The common weapon used is a knife.
- Reported rape victims have been as old as 98 years and as young as 2 months. Women aged 16-25 are three times more likely to be raped than other women. (Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Criminal Victimization in the U.S.*, 1991)
- Fifty percent of women who have ever been a victim of sexual assault or attempted sexual assault reported more than one such experience in her lifetime.
- Most rapists are between the ages of 15 and 24.
- Between 80% and 90% of all rapes are planned.
- About 80% of date rapes occur when one or both persons have been drinking alcohol.