

SEXUAL ASSAULT

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In response to a growing concern about sexual assault incidents, the 80th Texas Legislative Session passed HB 76. The Bill requires the Texas DPS to establish guidelines and collect, as part of the UCR Program, data about incidents that contain specific sexual assault offenses. Sexual Assault crime data collection was required to begin in calendar year 2008. Special consideration had to be taken to disseminate the data collection guidelines for Sexual Assault reporting due to the nature of the difference between UCR offense definitions and Texas penal code definitions. In the Texas UCR program, rape is the only offense collected under the crime index. Because there is greater variance in the offenses collected in the compilation of Sexual Assault data, this data collection should in no way be compared to the statistics maintained in the UCR Program.

ANALYSIS

Volume

In 2017, the total number of sexual assault incidents reported in Texas was 18,112. This represented a 1.3% decrease when compared to 2016. These incidents involved 18,750 victims (down 7.3% from 2016) and 18,774 offenders (up 5.0% from 2016).

2017 Sexual Assault Quick Stats			
	2017	2016	% Change
Number of Incidents	18,112	18,349	-1.3%
Number of Victims	18,750	20,237	-7.3%
Number of Offenders	18,774	17,878	5.0%

Victim's Relationship

The most significant number of sexual assault victims (in relation to the offender) were: female acquaintances (17.0%), other female family members (11.0%), girlfriends (7.8%), female friends (7.6%), female strangers (7.5%),

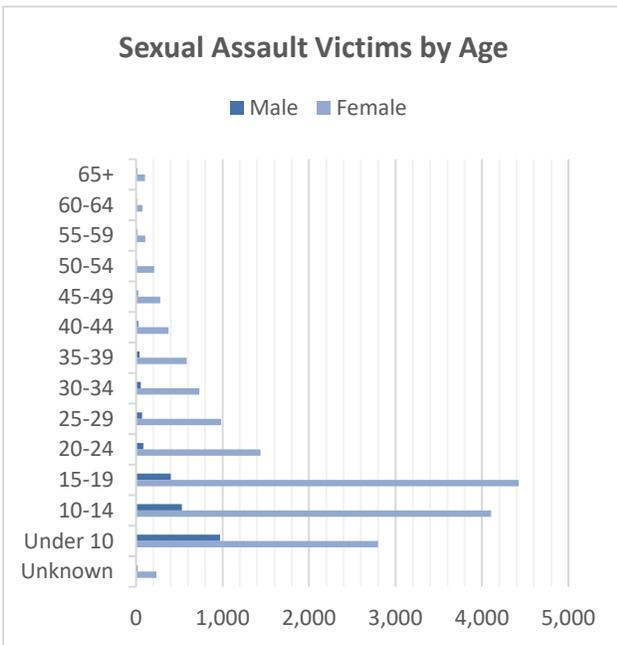
unknown females (7.4%), otherwise known females (6.9%), daughters (5.1%), and stepdaughters (4.9%). Most sexual assault victims were non-family members (54.7%), while 45.3% of victims were related to the offender.

Relationship of Victim to Offender ¹			
Type	Group %	Relationship of Victim	Total %
Romantic	11.2%	Husband	0.0%
		Wife	1.7%
		Common-Law Husband	0.0%
		Common-Law Wife	0.7%
		Ex-Husband	0.0%
		Ex-Wife	0.7%
		Boyfriend	0.2%
		Girlfriend	7.8%
		Homosexual Male	0.1%
Homosexual Female	0.0%		
Parental/Child	14.6%	Father	0.0%
		Mother	0.3%
		Son	0.9%
		Daughter	5.1%
		Stepfather	0.0%
		Stepmother	0.3%
		Stepson	0.4%
		Stepdaughter	4.9%
		Grandfather	0.0%
		Grandmother	0.2%
		Grandson	0.3%
		Granddaughter	2.2%
Other Family	19.4%	Brother	1.0%
		Sister	2.9%
		Stepbrother	0.4%
		Stepsister	1.3%
		Male In-Law	0.0%
		Female In-Law	0.4%
		Other Male Family Member	2.4%
		Other Female Family Member	11.0%
Other	54.7%	Friend-Male	0.9%
		Friend-Female	7.6%
		Acquaintance-Male	2.0%
		Acquaintance-Female	17.0%
		Neighbor (Male & Female)	1.6%
		Babysittee	0.4%
		Employer	0.1%
		Employee	0.3%
		Otherwise Known-Male	1.1%
		Otherwise Known-Female	6.9%
		Stranger-Male	0.9%
		Stranger-Female	7.5%
		Unknown-Male	1.0%
		Unknown-Female	7.4%

Victims

Incidents of sexual assault in 2017 involved 18,750 victims. Of the victims whose sex was known, 12.1% were male and 87.9% were female. The age group with the highest number of victims was the 15-to-19 year-old bracket.

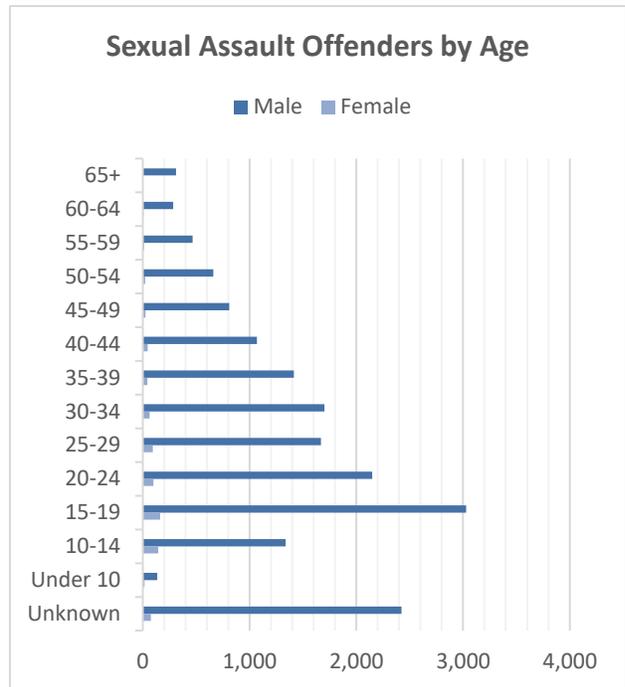
Of the victims whose ethnicity was known, 40.1% were Hispanic and 59.9% were not Hispanic. For the victims whose race was known, 80.9% were White, 17.9% were Black, and 1.2% were American Indian/Alaskan Native, Asian, or Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander. An examination of victims by race finds that 88.0% of White victims were female; 87.0% of Black victims were female; 94.4% of American Indian/Alaskan Native victims were female; and 91.2% of Asian or Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander victims were female.



Offenders

In 2017, 18,774 offenders were involved in incidents of sexual assault. Of the offenders whose sex was known, 95.5% were male and 4.5% were female. The age group showing the highest number of offenders was the 15-to-19 year-old bracket.

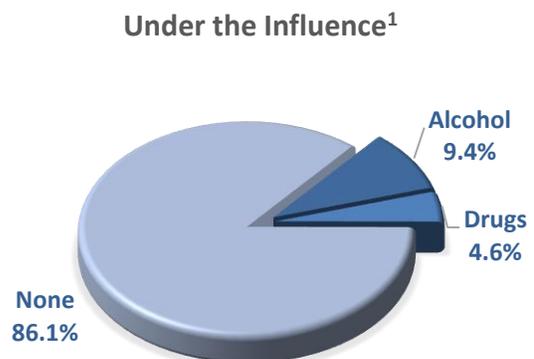
Of the offenders whose ethnicity was known, 42.2% were Hispanic and 57.8% were not Hispanic. Of the offenders whose race was known, 75.0% were White, 23.9% were Black, and 1.1% were American Indian/Alaskan



Native, Asian, or Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander. An examination of offenders by race finds that 95.3% of White offenders were male; 95.3% of Black offenders were male; 100% of American Indian/Alaskan Native offenders were male; and 95.7% of Asian or Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander offenders were male.

Under the Influence

Included in the sexual assault data collection is the determination of whether or not the offender was under the influence of mind-altering substances at the time of the incident. In 86.1% of the incidents, it was reported that neither drugs nor alcohol was involved. Alcohol was involved in 9.4% of the incidents and drugs were involved in 4.6% of the reported incidents.



Offenses

Offense information in the sexual assault data collection program is collected according to Texas Penal codes. Complete offense definitions are available in the Appendix to this publication.

Offense information is collected on six sexual assault categories: Continuous Sexual Abuse of Young Child, Indecency with a Child by Contact, Indecency with a Child by Exposure, Sexual Assault, Aggravated Sexual Assault and Sexual Performance by a Child.

Of these six offenses, Sexual Assault accounted for 50.8% of all offenses reported.

Sexual Assault Offenses	
Offense	%
Section 21.02 Continuous Sexual Abuse of Young Child or Children	2.4%
Section 21.11(a)(1) Indecency with a Child by Contact	20.5%
Section 21.11(a)(2) Indecency with a Child by Exposure	3.7%
Section 22.011 Sexual Assault	50.8%
Section 22.021 Aggravated Sexual Assault	21.6%
Section 43.25 Sexual Performance by a Child	1.0%

Weapons

The most common weapon involved in sexual assault cases was physical force through the use of personal weapons, which accounted for 90.7% of the incidents.

Sexual Assault Weapons ¹		
Weapon	Volume	%
Asphyxiation	72	0.4%
Blunt Object	102	0.5%
Drugs	469	2.3%
Firearm	242	1.2%
Knife/ Cutting Instrument	162	0.8%
Personal	18,401	90.7%
Other	849	4.2%

Location

In 2017, sexual assaults occurred most frequently in residences and homes. Other/Unknown was the second most common location reported.

Sexual Assault Locations		
Locations	Volume	%
Bar/Night Club	100	0.5%
Church/Synagogue/Temple	54	0.3%
Commercial/Office Building	168	0.8%
Construction Site	16	0.1%
Convenience Store	44	0.2%
Drug Store/Dr's Office/Hospital	146	0.7%
Field/Woods	280	1.4%
Government/Public Building	61	0.3%
Highway/Road/Alley	716	3.6%
Hotel/Motel	585	3.0%
Jail/Prison	63	0.3%
Lake/Waterway	45	0.2%
Parking Lot/Garage	454	2.3%
Residence/Home	14,514	73.2%
School/College	605	3.1%
Other/Unknown	1,976	10.0%

¹ All percentages rounded to the nearest tenth. Please be advised that due to rounding protocol, some graphs may reflect percentages that are slightly greater or less than 100%.