

## FACTSHEET ABOUT SEXUAL VIOLENCE

The following information consists of data about sexual violence in Arkansas collected during a comprehensive assessment in 2007-2009. This data presented reflects the most current information found on sexual violence in Arkansas during that time period.

### National Context

Regarding victimization, in a nationally representative survey of 9,684 adults:

- 10.6% of women reported experiencing forced sex at some time in their lives,
- 2.1% of men reported experiencing forced sex at some time in their lives, and
- 2.5% of women surveyed and 0.9% of men surveyed said they experienced unwanted sexual activity in the previous 12 months.
- 20% to 25% of women in college reported experiencing an attempted or a completed rape in college
- 60.4% of female and 69.2% of male victims were first raped before age 18.
- 25.5% of females were first raped before age 12, and 34.9% were first raped between the ages of 12-17.
- 41.0% of males were first raped before age 12, and 27.9% were first raped between the ages of 12-17.
- A 2005 survey of high school students found that 10.8% of girls and 4.2% of boys from grades 9-12 were forced to have sexual intercourse at some time in their lives.

Regarding perpetration, the same survey found:

- In the first rape experience of female victims, perpetrators were reported to be intimate partners (30.4%), family members (23.7%), and acquaintances (20%).
- In the first rape experience of male victims, perpetrators were reported to be acquaintances (32.3%), family members (17.7%), friends (17.6%), and intimate partners (15.9%)

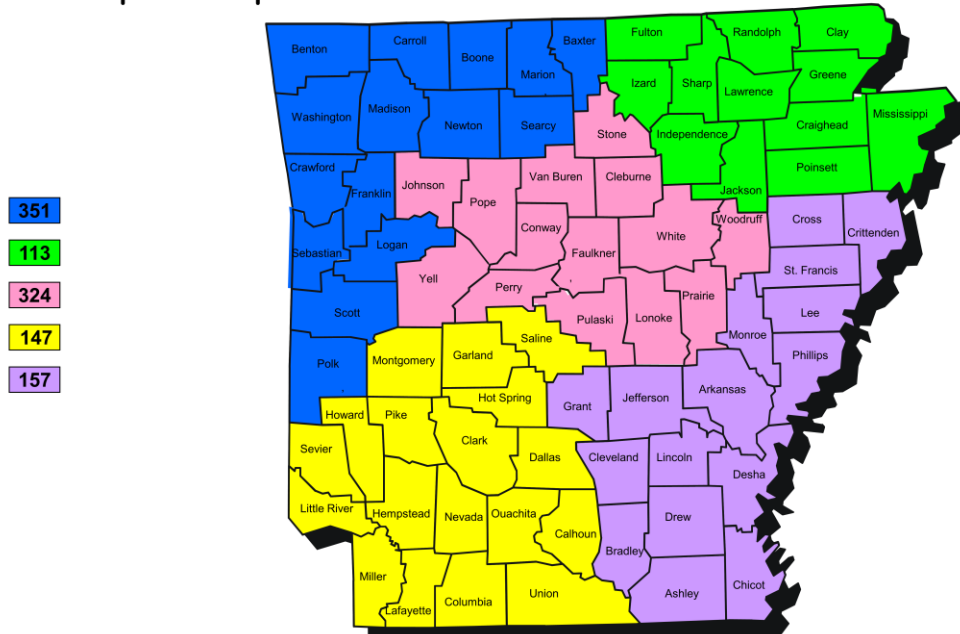
*Source: Prevalence and characteristics of sexual violence victimization: Violence and Victims, 2007*

### Sexual Violence Victimization in Arkansas

#### Number of Rapes Reported to Law Enforcement

	2004	2005	% Change
Reported Rapes	1,063	1,092	2.7

## ACIC- Reported Rapes 2005



Source: ACIC, 2005

Relying on reported rapes alone is problematic as rape is the most under-reported crime in the United States (Rape in the United States, 2000). Surveys can sometimes capture a more accurate picture of sexual violence.

According to Rape in Arkansas, an estimated 1 in 8 or 12.4% adult women in Arkansas have been victims of one or more completed forcible rapes during their lifetime. However, this estimate of the magnitude of Arkansas' rape problem is problematic as well because it is a very conservative estimate. For instance, it does not include women who have never been forcibly raped but who have experienced attempted rapes, alcohol or drug facilitated rapes, incapacitation rapes, statutory rapes, females in Arkansas who are currently under the age of 18 or male rape victims (Rape in Arkansas: A Report to the State, 2003).

### Who is at-risk for victimization?

While there is no profile for a person who is at-risk for sexual victimization, some people are at higher risk.

- According to data available, women in Arkansas are at an increased risk for being raped; 96% of people answering yes when asked if they've experienced unwanted sexual intercourse were female (BRFSS, 2006). Also, 97% of sexual assault victims served by rape crisis centers funded through the Department of Finance and Administration were female while 3% were male (DFA, 2007).
- The One In Eight Report provides evidence that women of color are at a higher risk victimization. For example, 24% of Native American women were raped at least once during their lifetime, 15.9% of African American women, 13% of Hispanic women, 13.8% Caucasian and 6% of Asian American women (Rape in Arkansas: A Report to the State, 2003).
- The *One In Eight Report* provides evidence that younger women are more likely to have been forcibly raped at some time in their lives than were older women. Women between the ages of 20-44 had the highest levels of risk for having ever been raped (over 15%), whereas women ages 65 and older had the lowest levels of risk (less than 5%)

#### House hold income

Household income is related to risk that a woman was ever raped.

- Women with extremely low household incomes of less than \$5,000 a year had the highest risk of rape (i.e., 17.7%)
- Women with incomes of \$50,000 or more per year had the lowest risk (13.0%).
- Women in the middle income groups, those who made between \$5,000-\$50,000 had a similar risk of rape that was lower than that of the poorest women and greater than that of the most affluent women.
- Women who either didn't know or didn't answer the income question were least likely to report having ever been raped
- *Income information was missing for a relatively high number of cases (approximately 1900).*

(Rape in Arkansas: A Report to the State, 2003).

#### College campus

According to the Jeanne Clery Act: Arkansas State University had 2 reported rapes; Arkansas Tech University had 2 reported rapes; South Arkansas Community College had 1 rape; South Arkansas Tech had 1 reported rape; University of Arkansas had 5 reported rapes; University of Arkansas at Fort Smith had 2 reported rapes; and University of Central Arkansas had 2 reported rapes.

Again, rape is one of the most underreported crimes in the United States so this data is a very conservative depiction of the sexual assault committed against college students. Women in the college-aged group appear to be at high-risk according to Arkansas service records as well as national data. Approximately, 30% of victims who accessed rape crisis services were 18-25

years of age (DFA, 2007). Additionally, 20% to 25% of women in college in the U.S. reported experiencing an attempted or a completed rape in college.

Disability

The Adult Protective Services Unit protects and assists adults, age 18 and older, who are: abused, neglected, or exploited, or any combination thereof; and endangered as a result of lack of capacity or impaired from mental or physical disease or defects as these terms are defined by Arkansas Statute. According to APS reports, there were:

- 68 cases of sexual abuse
- 248 cases of physical abuse
- 1018 cases of caregiver neglect.

Reporting is also extremely under-reported among people with disabilities for a variety of reasons including not having awareness about abuse, how to access services and no support system. However, national data consistently indicate individuals with disabilities are at very high risk of victimization. According to one study, over 90% of people with developmental disabilities will be victimized by sexual violence at some point during their lifetime, and forty nine percent will experience 10 or more abusive incidents (Valenti-Hein and Schwartz, 1995).

**Sexual Violence Perpetration**

Sex Offense Arrests

<i>Offense</i>	<i>2004</i>	<i>2005</i>	<i>% Change</i>
Forcible Rape	322	256	-20.5%
Other Sex Offenses	363	300	-17.4%

Age Distribution

<i>Offense</i>	<i>Juvenile</i>	<i>Adult</i>	<i>Total</i>
Forcible Rape	20	236	256
Other Sex Offenses	47	253	300

Percent

<i>Offense</i>	<i>Juvenile</i>	<i>Adult</i>	<i>Total</i>
Forcible Rape	7.8%	92.2%	100%
Other Sex Offenses	15.7%	84.3%	100%

Source: ACIC, 2005

According to ACIC, there are currently, a total of 7,276 registered sex offenders in Arkansas (ACIC, March 16, 2009)

Sex Offender Assessments

The data presented here comes from assessments conducted on convicted sex offenders in Arkansas. While this is useful information, this data is an incomplete picture of sex offenders as it only reflects a portion of sex offenders assessed between 200-2003. Additionally, there is no data at this time on sex offenders who have not been convicted.

**Also, please keep in mind, there is no common profile of a sex offender.**

Offender Gender

Gender	Frequency	Percent
Female	31	3.7
Male	1421	94.2
Total	1508	100

Age at assessment

The offenders average age at time of assessment: 43 years of age

Race/ Ethnicity of Offender

Ethnicity	Frequency	Percent
White	1080	71.6
Hispanic	23	1.5
Black or African American	320	21.2
Asian & White	3	.2
Other	13	.9
Asian	2	.1
Native Hawaiian	1	.1
Unknown	1	.1
Total	1508	100

Type of Charge

Charge	Frequency	Percent
Felony	1405	93.2
Misdemeanor	26	1.7
Total	1508	100

### Charges

The most commonly occurring charges were sexual abuse, rape, carnal abuse, incest, and sexual misconduct, accounting for 65.8% of the charges. All other charges occurred in less than 2% of instances.

Charge	Frequency	Percent
Sexual abuse in the 1 <sup>st</sup> degree	571	32.5
Rape	372	21.2
Carnal abuse in the 3 <sup>rd</sup> degree	108	6.1
Carnal abuse in the 1 <sup>st</sup> degree	42	2.4
Incest	35	2
Sexual misconduct	28	1.6
	Total	65.8

### Type of Trial

Type Trial	Frequency	Percent
Bench Trial	44	.8
Jury Trial	322	5.7
Non trial	2024	36
Plea bargain	2757	49
Total	5624	100

### Violation

In 69.2% of the cases there were no violations of probation or parole. Of the 331 cases (21.9%) in which there were violations, 100 resulted in re-incarceration.

### Perpetrator Drug and/ or Alcohol Use at Time of Incident

Influence	Frequency	Percent
None	695	46.1
Yes, alcohol	339	22.5
Yes, illegal drugs	77	5.1
Yes, misuse of prescription drugs	3	.2
Yes, alcohol and other drugs	154	10.2
Total	1508	100

### Residence

Offenders had a variety of living situations at the time of offense. The most common was living with a spouse.

Living situation	Frequency	Percent
Living with spouse	493	32.7
Living alone stable	210	13.9
Living alone transient	86	5.7
Living with friends	45	3.0
Living with parents or siblings	174	11.5
Living with other family members	119	7.9
Living with partner other than spouse	107	7.1
Living in foster care	3	.2
Total	1508	100

### Legal Status of Offender

Over half were on probation or parole at the time of the offense.

LEGAL STATUS	FREQUENCY	PERCENT
No relationship to criminal justice system	544	36.1
On bail/ bond	3	.2
On probation	511	33.9
On parole	312	20.7
Work release	5	.3
Total	1508	100

### Method of Engaging Victim

Verbal manipulation, coercion or threats of violence were used to engage the victim 52% of the time. Physical force and the presence or use of weapons were used 24% of the time. Alcohol or drugs were used 5% of the time.

Method	Frequency	Percent
Verbal manipulation	276	18.3
Verbal coercion	444	29.4
Verbal threats of violence	65	4.3
Physical force	309	20.5
Weapons present	36	2.4

Weapons used	13	.9
Engaged victim in alcohol used	53	3.5
Engaged victim in drug use	18	1.2
Other	176	11.7
Total	1508	100

### Social History

- Over 17% were unemployed in the two years before the arrest. Just under 10% were employed part-time while the rest were employed full-time.
- The highest grade completed, on average, was 11<sup>th</sup> grade.
- There was no history of abuse of the offender in 57% of the reports. Approximately 41% were victims of physical abuse and 21% of the offenders were sexually abused. Of those who were abused, the offender was an extended family member, parent or acquaintance.
- Previous convictions involving violence, either sexual or nonsexual, were rare. Where there were violence-related convictions, the violence was nonsexual.

*Source: Sex offender assessments, 2000-2003*