

EVERY TWO MINUTES: THE FACTS ABOUT SEXUAL ASSAULT

- Every two minutes, somewhere in America, someone is sexually assaulted.
(RAINN calculation based on 2000 National Crime Victimization Survey, Bureau of Justice Statistics)
- In 2000, there were 261,000 victims of rape, attempted rape or sexual assault.
(2000 National Crime Victimization Survey, Bureau of Justice Statistics)
- Of these 261,000, 114,000 were victims of sexual assault, 55,000 were victims of attempted rape, and 92,000 were victims of completed rape.
(2000 NCVS)
- One out of every six American women has been the victim of an attempted or completed rape in her lifetime (14.8% completed rape; 2.8% attempted rape). A total of 17.7 million women have been victims of these crimes.
(Prevalence, Incidence and Consequences of Violences Against Women Survey, National Institute of Justice and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)
- About three percent of American men – a total of 2.78 million men – have experienced an attempted or completed rape in their lifetime.
(Prevalence, Incidence and Consequences of Violence Against Women, 1998.)
- About 44% of rape victims are under age 18. Three out of every twenty victims (15%) are under age 12.
(Sex Offenses and Offenders, Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice, 1997)
- Among people 12 and older, about 83.5% of the U.S. population is white, 82.5% of rape victims are white; 13.3% of victims are black, compared to 12.3% of the population; and 4.2% of both victims and the population are of other races.
(2000 NCVS)
- Approximately 43% of victims are raped by a friend or acquaintance; 34% by a stranger; 17% by an intimate; and 2% by another relative.
(2000 NCVS)
- About four out of ten sexual assaults take place at the victim's own home. Two in ten take place in the home of a friend, neighbor or relative. One in ten take place outside, away from home. And about one in 12 take place in a parking garage.
(Sex Offenses and Offenders, Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice, February, 1997)
- Age 12-34 are the highest risk years. Risk peaks in the late teens: girls 16 to 19 are four times more likely than the general population to be victims of rape, attempted rape or sexual assault.
(2000 NCVS)