

Fact Sheet

Sexual Violence Statistics and Facts



- When describing how much their first sexual intercourse was wanted, 9.8% of females ages 18-24 responded “I really didn’t want it to happen at the time” and 47.1% responded “I had mixed feelings—part of me wanted it to happen at the time and part of me didn’t.”

4.8% of males responded “I really didn’t want it to happen” and 33.5% responded “I had mixed feelings.”³
- **In 89% of sexual assault cases**, the offender is either a relative or person known to the victim.²
- Throughout SVC’s experience in educating children in schools, we have seen that children often confuse sexual violence with sexuality. They are taught through images and actions that sex and violence go hand-in-hand.
- **One out of four** girls is sexually abused before the age of 18. **One out of seven** boys is sexually assaulted before the age of 16.¹
- In a sample of imprisoned sex offenders with fewer than 2 known victims, offenders actually disclosed an average of 110 victims. A separate sample found that sex offenders commit sex crimes for an average of 16 years before being caught.⁵
- **Only 12-16% of rapes/sexual assaults are reported to the police.** Of the reported cases, there is a 16.3% chance the rapist will end up in prison. Factoring in unreported rapes, 19 out of 20 offenders will walk away free.⁴
- Sexual violence in Minnesota alone has resulted in an estimated 12,700 sexually transmitted diseases and 1,500 pregnancies.⁶
- A study conducted by the Minnesota Department of Health discovered that **sexual assault in Minnesota alone in 2005 cost almost 8 billion dollars. That is an average cost of \$1,540 per resident.** The study also revealed that sexual violence cost 3.3 times more than drunk driving in the state.⁶

The Sexual Violence Center is committed to eradicating sexual violence and abuse in the Twin Cities Metro area by

- *Challenging the systems and individuals that promote privilege, oppression and domination,*
- *Educating those that will join us as advocates and catalysts for change, and*
- *Supporting those who have been victimized, empowering them to not only survive but thrive, finding power and movement in our collective voices.*

1. FBI and Sexual Assault Resource Center, Pamphlet, 2002
2. Sexual Assault Resource Center, 2002
3. National Center for Health Statistics, *National Survey of Family Growth*, 2006-2008
4. US Department of Justice Statistics, NCPA
5. Sean Ahlmeyer, Peggy Heil, Bonita McKee and Kim English, *The impact of polygraphy on admissions of victims and offenses in adult*, 2000.
6. Minnesota Department of Health, *Cost of Sexual Violence Report*, 2007