

A Report of the Interagency Task Force on

Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Prevention

State of Minnesota
January 2005

A Report from the Interagency Task Force on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Prevention

Prepared by:

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Office of Justice Programs

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Minnesota Office of Justice Programs

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MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY



Office of Justice Programs

January 2005

Dear Governor Pawlenty and Members of the Minnesota Legislature:

In these strained economic times, domestic violence and sexual assault victim assistance programs are struggling to provide adequate services to victims. Likewise, law enforcement, prosecutors, probation officers and other criminal justice professionals with limited resources strive to do their work and fulfill their obligations to victims.

In the State of Minnesota, domestic violence happens daily and the tragedies of familial homicides and suicides continue to occur. Overall, violent crime has been decreasing on the national as well as the state level with the exception of Minnesota's rape rate which has been consistently higher than the national rate since 1993.

The victims of these crimes are in critical need of intervention and support, and victim assistance programs continue to provide these services throughout the state even though many are experiencing funding difficulties.

When the Legislature created the Interagency Task Force on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Prevention (IATF) in 2000, there was no funding provided to support its operation. The budget crisis of the past two years has resulted in financial constraints within the Office of Justice Programs division, and for this reason, the IATF has been unable to meet during 2004.

The Office of Justice Programs submits this report for your consideration. The report provides an overview of funding for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault victims, and a recommendation of no further budget cuts to crime victim services. Also included is a map of domestic violence and sexual assault programs and updated information about domestic violence and sexual assault in Minnesota.

Please consider the importance of victim assistance programs in our communities and victim needs throughout the state as you review this report and begin to address difficult budget issues in the year ahead.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Paula Weber".

Paula Weber
Director, Interagency Task Force
Crime Victim Justice Unit



Recommendation

2005 Legislative Session

The State of Minnesota will struggle with budget constraints and fiscal demands again this year as it tries to address the needs and concerns of its citizens. In recent years, state budget deficits have resulted in cutbacks in many government departments and local programs. One area that has experienced substantial funding reductions is crime victim services, and specifically, domestic violence and sexual assault programs.

As the state faces continuing budget concerns this year, it is essential to consider the detrimental effect further cuts to these organizations will have on programming and services

which, in turn, will adversely affect victims of crime and members of the criminal justice system.

The present level of funding is barely sufficient to support the organizations serving crime victim needs. Victims of domestic violence and sexual assault are in critical need of services and it is imperative that, at a minimum, programs sustain their current level of funding and services.

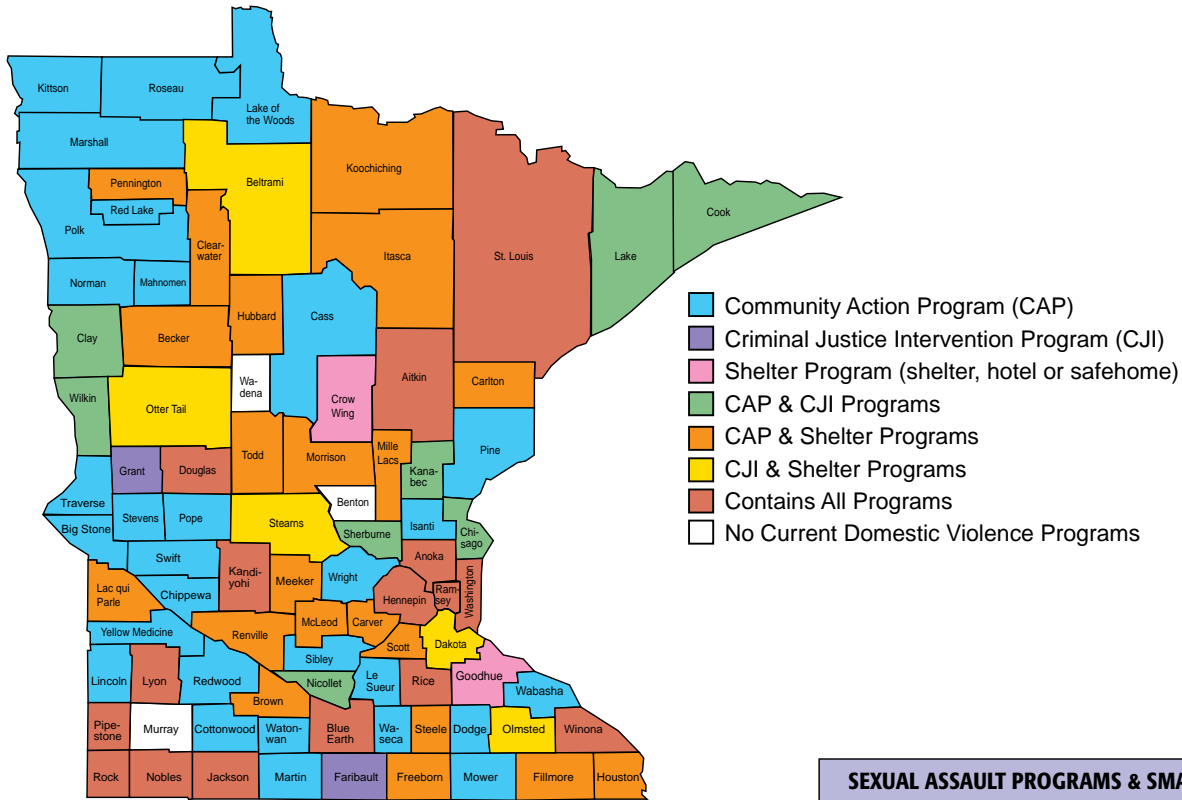
Therefore, we renew the recommendation made in the Interagency Task Force on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Prevention Reports of 2003 and 2004 that there be no further budget reductions to crime victim services.

Funding Sources and Amounts

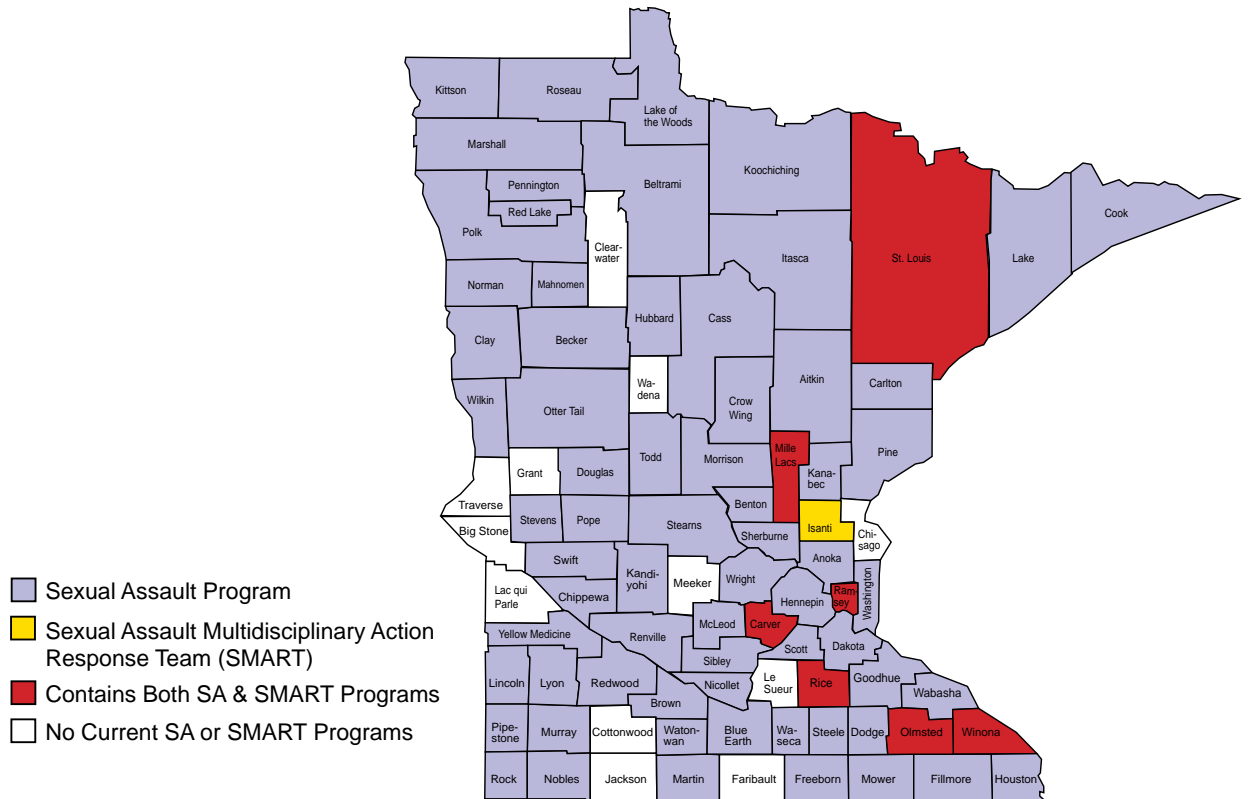
Battered Women's Services	2003	2004	2005
State General Fund Shelter Per Diem	\$18,379,000	\$15,595,000	\$15,379,000
State General Fund Grants	\$5,497,000	\$3,364,000	\$3,364,000
Federal Victims of Crime Act Funds	\$693,500	\$2,688,200	\$2,198,311
Federal Violence Prevention and Services Act Funds	\$1,555,848	\$1,555,848	\$1,565,752
Federal Violence Against Women Act Funds	\$988,000	\$1,373,080	\$1,026,500
Total	\$27,113,348	\$24,576,128	\$23,533,563
Sexual Assault Services			
State General Fund Grants	\$2,087,000	\$1,052,000	\$1,052,000
Federal Victims of Crime Act Funds	\$1,098,712	\$1,454,398	\$1,501,027
Federal Violence Against Women Act Funds	\$1,143,000	\$875,168	\$1,026,500
Federal Prevention and Personal Health Care Block Grant Funds	\$130,936	\$120,468	\$120,468
Total	\$4,459,648	\$3,502,034	\$3,699,995

Maps of Services

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROGRAMS



SEXUAL ASSAULT PROGRAMS & SMART PROJECTS



Domestic Violence

Domestic Violence

The federal Office for Victims of Crime defines domestic violence as a pattern of coercive behavior designed to exert power and control over a person in an intimate relationship through the use of intimidating, threatening, harmful, or harassing behavior.¹ It can be sexual, physical, or emotional abuse.

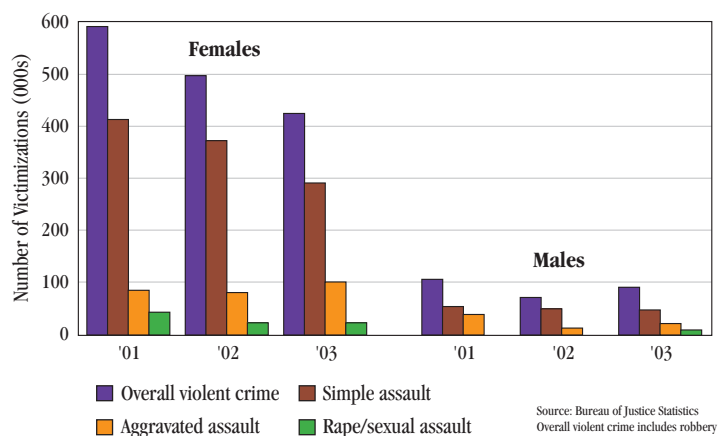
Domestic Violence in the United States

The National Crime Victimization Survey collects data annually on crimes against persons age 12 and older, reported or not reported to the police, from a nationally representative sample of U.S. households.²

In 2003, it was estimated that there were more than 521,000 non-fatal violent victimizations committed by intimate partners in America;³ of these, 84 percent were against women.⁴

From 2001-03, overall violent crime by intimate partners decreased by 25 percent, but rape/sexual assault fell by more than 33 percent. Aggravated assault increased slightly.

Violence by Intimate Partners by Type of Crime and Gender in the U.S. 2001–2003



In 2003, domestic violence made up 19 percent of all non-fatal violent crime victimizations experienced by women, and 3 percent experienced by men.

In 2002, 1,202 females and 388 men were murdered by an intimate partner.⁵ Homicide by intimates has declined since 1993, especially for male victims. About one-third of all female murder victims and 3 percent of all male murder victims were killed by an intimate.⁶

Who are Victims of Domestic Violence?

In 2003, a national study found that economic status is an important factor in intimate partner violence.⁷ Intimate partner violence was more prevalent and more severe in disadvantaged neighborhoods and in households facing economic distress. Economic distress, in the form of unemployment or not having enough money to meet family needs, increased the risk of intimate partner violence against women. This study compared women from advantaged neighborhoods to those living in disadvantaged neighborhoods. The results revealed that women living in disadvantaged neighborhoods were:

- More than twice as likely to be victims of intimate partner violence.
- Three times as likely to be victims of severe violence (2 percent compared to 6 percent).
- More likely to be victimized repeatedly or to be injured by their domestic partners.

African-Americans and whites with similar economic circumstances had similar rates of intimate partner violence. There was a higher rate of intimate partner violence among African-Americans because a higher proportion lived in disadvantaged neighborhoods and were under economic distress.⁸

The Costs of Intimate Partner Violence

In 2003, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention reported that health-related costs of intimate partner violence (includes rape, physical assault, stalking and

Domestic Violence

homicide)⁹ exceeded \$5.8 billion each year in the United States. Of this total, nearly \$4.1 billion are direct medical and mental health care services and \$1.8 billion are productivity losses.¹⁰ Only about 30 percent of those injured sought medical attention for their injuries.¹¹

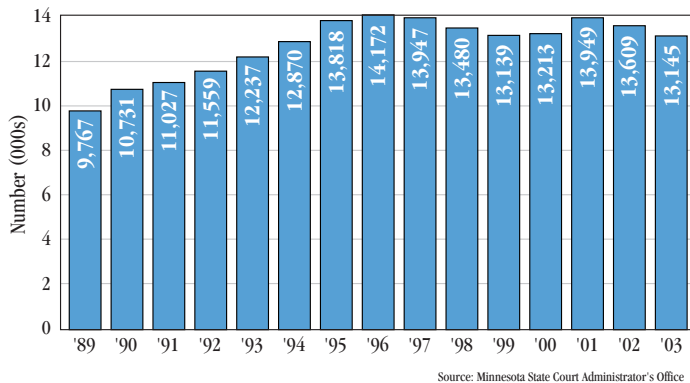
Domestic Violence in Minnesota

In 2003, at least 13 women and 10 children were murdered in Minnesota as the result of domestic violence.¹²

Civil and Criminal Court Case Filings

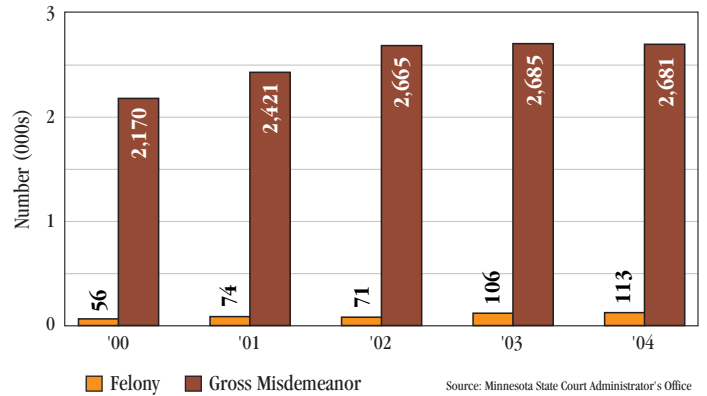
Orders for protection are court orders which are granted to protect individuals from domestic violence. Order for protection filings in Minnesota were highest in 1996 at 14,172 and decreased to 13,145 in 2003.¹³

Domestic Abuse Order for Protection Filings in Minnesota 1989–2003



In Minnesota, domestic assault criminal cases charged at the felony level have increased from 1999 to 2004. Each year more cases are charged as gross misdemeanors than felonies.¹⁴

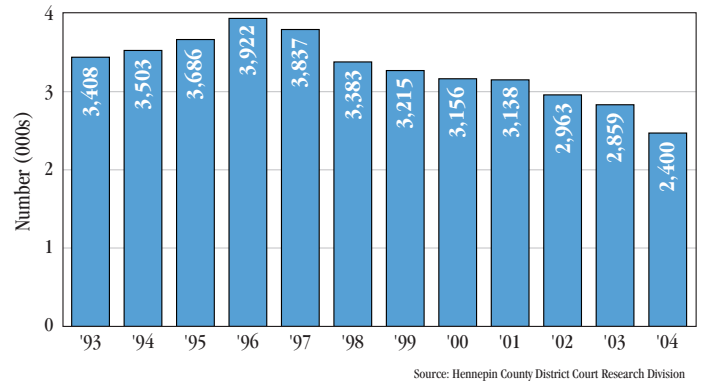
Minnesota Cases with Domestic Assault Charges FY 2000–2004



Domestic Violence in Hennepin County

In the state's largest county, Hennepin, domestic abuse order for protection filings were highest at 3,922 in 1996. Since then, the number of domestic abuse order for protection filings has decreased each year to 2,400 in fiscal year 2004.¹⁵

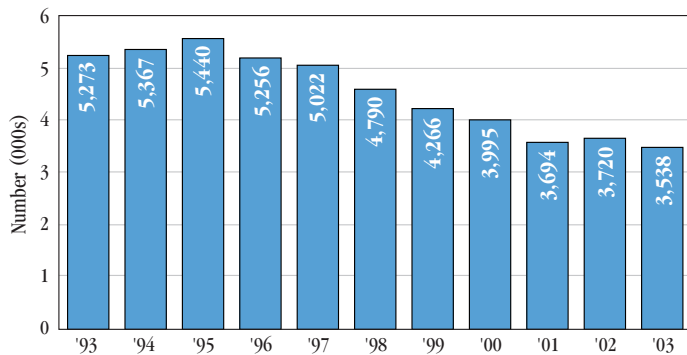
Domestic Abuse Order for Protection Filings in Hennepin County 1993–2004



Domestic Violence

In Hennepin County, misdemeanor domestic assault filings decreased by one-third from 1995 to 2004.

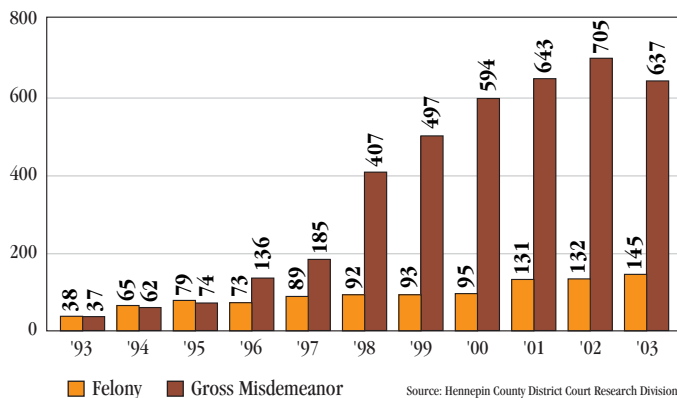
Misdemeanor Domestic Assault Filings in Hennepin County 1993–2004



Source: Hennepin County District Court Research Division

In Hennepin County, felony domestic assault filings increased steadily from 1993 to 2003, but gross misdemeanor domestic assault filings increased from 1993 to 2002 and then decreased in 2003. After 1997, there were four times as many gross misdemeanor domestic assault filings as felony domestic filings.

Felony and Gross Misdemeanor Domestic Assault Filings in Hennepin County 1993–2003



Source: Hennepin County District Court Research Division

Domestic Violence in Minneapolis

In 2003, the Minneapolis Police Department received 17,851 emergency domestic calls, and the number has been decreasing since 2001. In 2003, there were 3,100 reported cases of domestic assault; of these, 1,826 resulted in an arrest.¹⁶

Reported Domestic Violence in Minneapolis

	2001	2002	2003
911 DC*	19,701	19,031	17,851
911 DC with a Weapon	465	426	440
DA** Reports	5,111	4,652	3,100
DA Arrests	2,571	2,368	1,826
DA Gone on Arrival	2,540	2,284	1,747

* Domestic Calls, ** Domestic Assault
Source: Minneapolis Police Department

Domestic Abuse Project

The Domestic Abuse Project located in Minneapolis conducted a study of 263 women who were victims of intimate partner violence in 2002-03. Some of the important findings were:¹⁷

- Nearly three-quarters of the victims had called the police about the abuse.
- Nearly one-third of victims filed charges.
- One-third reported frequent or very frequent physical abuse.
- One-third sought medical services because of the abuse.
- One-third were prevented by the abuser from seeking medical services for their injuries.

Minnesota Hospital Data

In 2003, 1,096 Minnesotans received emergency department or inpatient hospital care for domestic violence related injuries. Ninety-five percent of the victims were women and those in the age ranges 20-24 and 30-34 had the most injuries of all age groups.

More than 95 percent of the domestic violence victims who went to the hospital were treated in the emergency department at a median charge of \$574. The remaining victims were treated as inpatients at median charges of \$7,720.¹⁸

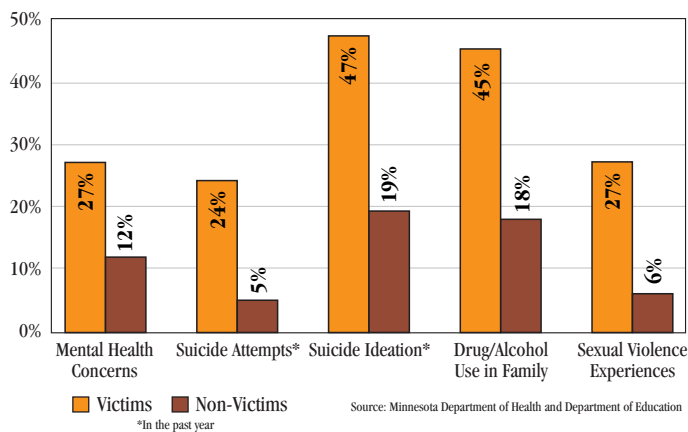
Domestic Violence

Minnesota Student Survey Data

The Minnesota Department of Education, in collaboration with other state agencies, conducts a survey every three years among 6th, 9th, and 12th graders in public schools throughout the state. The survey asks youth about their behavior, activities, and attitudes towards substance abuse, violence, and sexual activity.¹⁹

Among 9th graders, 11 percent reported that they had been physically abused by an adult living in the household. These victims reported being greatly affected in terms of their mental and physical health and additional victimizations.²⁰

Effects of Domestic Abuse on 9th Graders, Minnesota Student Survey 2001



Wilder Foundation Homeless Study

Results from a Wilder Foundation study found:

- The most common reason women sought shelter was to flee an abusive partner.
- In 2003, nearly one in three homeless women was homeless because of domestic abuse.
- Nearly half of homeless women reported that they stayed in an abusive relationship because they had nowhere else to live.
- An association exists between homelessness and abuse as children; 42 percent of homeless adult women reported that they were mistreated as children.²¹

Victim Programs in Minnesota

In fiscal year 2004, there were 81 domestic violence programs. Battered women in Minnesota spent nearly 99,000 nights and children spent nearly 116,000 nights in safe shelter in fiscal year 2004.²²

In Community Advocacy Programs (CAP), almost 25,000 victims were served in the same time period. In CAP, the majority of victims served were between the ages of 30 and 44 followed by ages 18 and 29. Most (56.3 percent) CAP victims were white, followed by 17.7 percent African-Americans, 8.3 percent Latina, 5.9 percent immigrants/refugees and 5.8 percent Native Americans.

¹ National Victim Academy Textbook, Office of Victims of Crime, Chapter 9.

² Bureau of Justice Statistics, *National Crime Victimization Survey, 1995-2000*, December 2003. The NCVS is the source of national data for this report.

³ Includes rape/sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault and simple assault.

⁴ Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Criminal Victimization, 2003*.

⁵ FBI, *Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002*.

⁶ Bureau of Justice Statistics.

⁷ National Institute of Justice, *When Violence Hits Home: How Economics and Neighborhood Play a Role*. September 2004.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Department of Health and Human Services, Center for Disease Control and Prevention, *Costs of Intimate Partner Violence Against Women in the United States*, March 2003.

¹⁰ Ibid.

¹¹ Ibid.

¹² Minnesota Coalition for Battered Women *2003 Femicide Report*.

¹³ Minnesota State Court Administrator's Office, October 2004.

¹⁴ Ibid. Domestic assault cases may also be charged as misdemeanors.

¹⁵ Hennepin County District Court Research Division, October 2004.

¹⁶ Minneapolis Police Department, CODE FOR Unit, October 2004.

¹⁷ Dosanjh, S., *Violence Against Women Health Research Collaborative*, Minnesota Domestic Abuse Project, 2004.

¹⁸ Minnesota Department of Health, Violence and Prevention Unit, October 2004.

¹⁹ Minnesota Department of Education and Minnesota Department of Health, Injury and Violence Prevention Unit, *Minnesota Student Survey, 2001*.

²⁰ Ibid.

²¹ Wilder Research Center, *Homeless in Minnesota 2003*.

²² Minnesota Department of Public Safety, Office of Justice Programs, Crime Victims Services, Grants Administration.

Rape/Sexual Assault

Rape/Sexual Assault

Rape is generally defined as nonconsensual sexual penetration perpetrated through physical or psychological force, or threat of bodily harm.

Sexual assault is the use of sexual actions and words that are unwanted by and/or harmful to another person. Some common terms that are used interchangeably with sexual assault are sexual abuse and sexual violence.¹

Sexual Assault in the United States

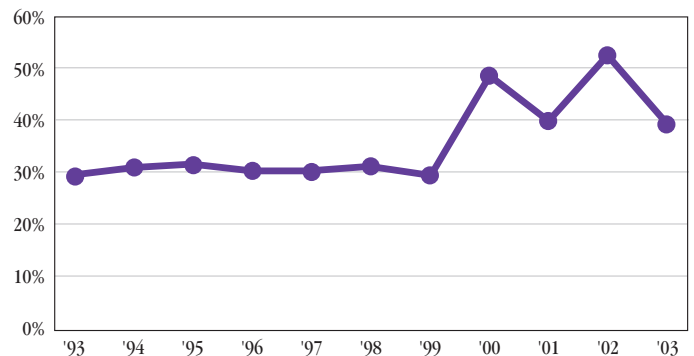
In 2003, according to the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), there were an estimated 198,850 rape victimizations, attempted rapes, or sexual assaults in America, a decrease of nearly 20 percent from 2002.²

In 2003, it was estimated that:

- A forcible rape was committed every 5.6 minutes in America.³
- 38.5 percent of sexual assault victims reported the crime to the police in 2003 (a decrease from 2002.)⁴
- In 84 percent of the rape/sexual assault cases, no weapons were involved.⁵

The rape/sexual assault victimization rate in 2003 in the United States was .8 per 1,000 persons age 12 or older, a 27 percent drop from 2002 and a 68 percent decrease from 1993.⁶

Percentage of Rapes and Sexual Assaults Reported to Police from 1993–2003 for the U.S.



Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey

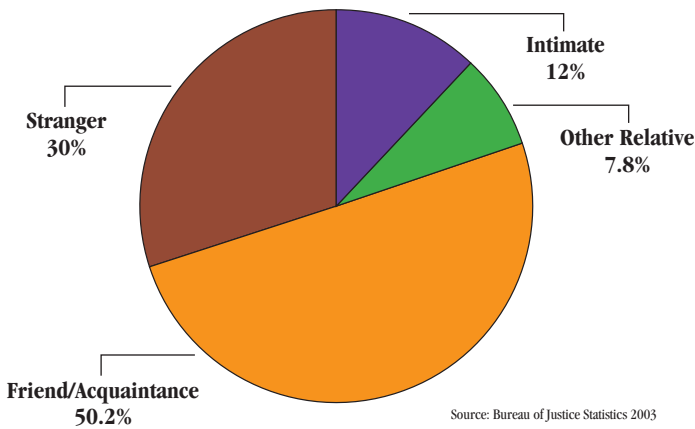
Who are Victims of Sexual Assault?

According to the 2003 NCVS:

- 90 percent of rape/sexual assault victimizations are against women.⁷
- Persons age 20-24 had the highest rates of rape/sexual assault victimization of all age groups, followed by adults age 25-34.⁸
- Rape/sexual assault is inversely related to household income; the highest rates were found in households with incomes less than \$15,000, and the lowest were found in households with incomes over \$50,000.⁹
- Persons from Midwest states had the highest rape/sexual assault victimization rates and persons from Northeast states had the lowest victimization rates.¹⁰
- Single persons (never married, divorced or separated) were more likely to be victimized than married or widowed persons.¹¹
- Nearly 70 percent of victims knew their attackers.¹²

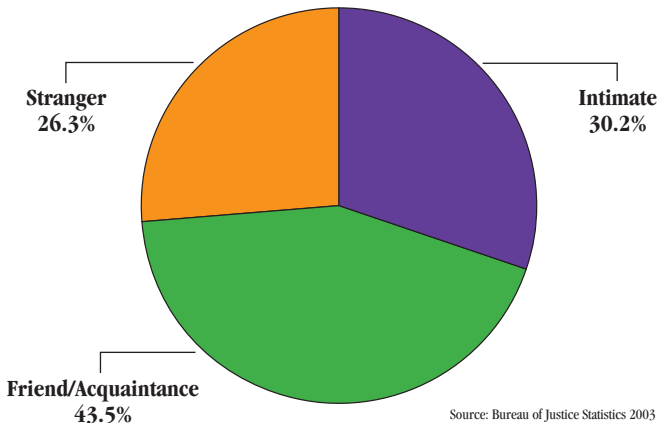
Rape/Sexual Assault

Rape/Sexual Assault Victim and Offender Relationship for Female Victims in the U.S. 2003



Both male and female victims were most likely to be victimized by a friend or acquaintance.¹³

Rape/Sexual Assault Victim and Offender Relationship for Male Victims in the U.S. 2003



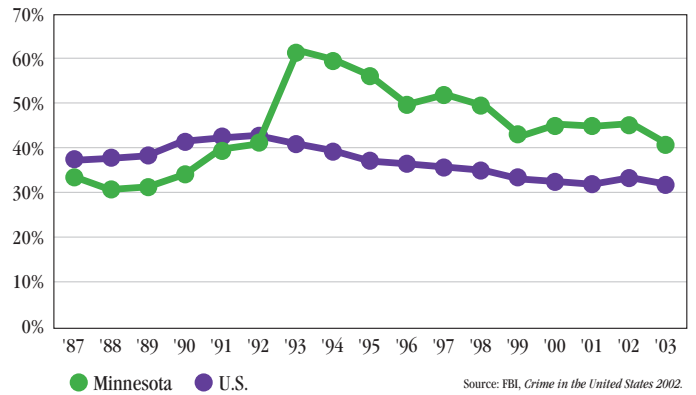
Sexual Assault in Minnesota

There were 6,255 reported sexual assaults in Minnesota in 2003, of which 2,387 were forcible or attempted rapes. Half of the rape cases were cleared by arrest, up from 48 percent in 2002.¹⁴

In 2003, there were six rapes per day or one every four hours in Minnesota.¹⁵

From 1987 to 1992, Minnesota's rape rate was below the nation's, but since 1993, Minnesota's rate has been higher.¹⁶

Forcible Rape Rate per 100,000 Persons for the U.S. and Minnesota from 1987–2003



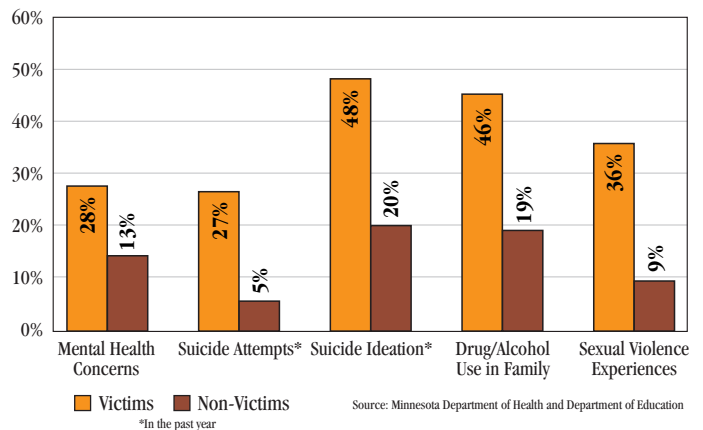
Student Survey Results

Minnesota Department of Education

The Minnesota Department of Education conducts the *Minnesota Student Survey* every three years among 6th, 9th, and 12th graders throughout the state. It asks youth about their behavior, activities, and attitudes towards substance abuse, violence, and sexual activity.¹⁷

Among 9th graders, 9 percent reported that they had been victims of sexual violence.¹⁸ These students reported that these victimizations greatly affected them in terms of their mental and physical health and additional victimizations.¹⁹

Effects of Sexual Violence on 9th Graders, Minnesota Student Survey 2001



Rape/Sexual Assault

Among 9th and 12th graders, 11 percent reported that they had been a victim of date rape or sexual abuse in their lifetimes. Females were twice as likely to be victims of date rape and sexual abuse than males. These victims also reported increased mental and physical health concerns.

University of Minnesota

The 2003 Student Health and Safety Survey was conducted at the University of Minnesota during spring 2003. A total of 2,565 surveys were collected on the Twin Cities campus among mostly 18-24 year-old students. Major findings include:

- 2.5 percent of females and .5 percent of males had been raped in the past academic year.
- 5.2 percent of females and 2.2 percent of males had experienced non-rape sexual assault in the past academic year.

- 13.8 percent of females and 2.5 percent of males had been raped in their lifetimes.
- 26 percent of females and 6.9 percent of males had experienced non-rape sexual assault in their lifetimes.²⁰

Victim Programs in Minnesota

In fiscal year 2004, there were 61 programs for victims of sexual assault in Minnesota. These programs served 6,080 victims. Victims were most likely to be ages 18 to 29 (33.6 percent) followed by ages 13 to 17 (24 percent). The victims were most likely to be white (67.5 percent), followed by 9.5 percent immigrant/refugee, 6.8 percent African-Americans, 6.4 percent Native Americans, and 4.1 percent Latina.²¹

¹ Minnesota Department of Health.
[www.health.state.mn.us/injury/pub/kit/basic what's.pdf](http://www.health.state.mn.us/injury/pub/kit/basic%20what's.pdf)

² Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, *Criminal Victimization, 2003*.

³ FBI, *Crime in the United States, 2003*.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, *Criminal Victimization, 2003*.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ Ibid.

¹¹ Ibid.

¹² Ibid.

¹³ Ibid.

¹⁴ Bureau of Criminal Apprehension, *Minnesota Crime Information, 2003*.

¹⁵ Minnesota Department of Public Safety, Bureau of Criminal Apprehension, 2003.

¹⁶ FBI, *Crime in the United States 2003*.

¹⁷ Minnesota Department of Education and Minnesota Department of Health, Injury and Violence Prevention Unit, *Minnesota Student Survey, 2001*.

¹⁸ Victims of date rape, sexually abused by non-family adult or family member.

¹⁹ Minnesota Department of Education and Minnesota Department of Health, Injury and Violence Prevention Unit, *Minnesota Student Survey, 2001*.

²⁰ Roberta Gibbons, Aurora Center for Advocacy and Education, University of Minnesota, October 2004.

²¹ Minnesota Department of Public Safety, Office of Justice Programs, Crime Victims Services, Grants Administration.



Minnesota Office of Justice Programs

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