

Sexual Assault in Maryland

FACT SHEET

Of all adult women residing in Maryland, **21.3%**, or about **476,417** adult women, have experienced any form of completed or attempted rape in their lifetime.¹ About **44%**, or **979,295** of Maryland's women, and more than **24.8%** of Maryland's men, about **522,486**, have experienced other forms of sexual violence.¹

FBI Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR)²

Below are the most recent county and gender specific statistics provided by the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth and Victim Services (**GOCPYVS**), which references information provided by the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting (**UCR**) Program. In 2013, the UCR began collecting rape data under a revised definition with the Summary Reporting System. Beginning in the 2013 data year, the term "forcible" was removed from the offense title. UCR's revised definition of rape is: penetration no matter how slight, of the vagina or anus with any body part or object, or oral penetration by a sex organ of another person, without the consent of the victim.

- In 2020, **1,891** rapes were reported in Maryland. This represents a **4.4%** decrease over 2019.
- In 2020, the three Maryland counties with the most rape reports were Baltimore County, Baltimore City, and Montgomery County.
- Of all rapes reported in Maryland during 2020, **94.7%** were rape by force and **5.3%** were attempts to rape.
- A total of **505** persons were arrested for rape in Maryland in 2020.
 - **14%** of those arrested for rape were under the age of 18.

National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey³

The 2012 National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (**NISVS**) defined rape as any completed or attempted unwanted vaginal (for women), oral, or anal penetration through the use of physical force (such as being pinned or held down, or by the use of violence) or threats to physically harm and includes times when the victim was drunk, high, drugged, or passed out and unable to consent. The survey used four types of sexual violence in addition to rape including being made to penetrate someone else, sexual coercion, unwanted sexual contact, and non-contact unwanted sexual experiences. The data in this section reflects those definitions.

- Maryland women have a high lifetime prevalence of sexual violence other than rape: an estimated number of **1,773,000** women in Maryland have experience sexual violence other than rape.
- An estimated **441,000** Maryland men have experienced sexual violence other than rape in their lifetime.
- Approximately **391,000** Maryland women have experienced contact sexual violence by an intimate partner in their lifetime.
- An estimated **420,000** Maryland women, **18.2%** of the female population, have experienced rape in their lifetime.
 - An estimated **22.3%** of non-Hispanic black women in Maryland have experienced rape in their lifetime, compared to **18%** of white women.
- An estimated **329,000** Maryland men, **15.6%** of the male population, have experienced contact sexual violence in their lifetime.

¹ National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (NISVS): 2015 Data Brief. (Numbers adjusted to match current population data.)

² GOCPYVS, Uniform Crime Report, 2020

³ Center for Disease Control and Prevention, National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey: 2010-2012 State Report, 2017