

# Stats and Facts about Rape and Sexual Assault

compiled from RAINN, NCVS 2002 & UCR

## AGE

80% of victims are under age 30  
44% of rape victims are under age 18  
29% are age 12-17  
15% are under age 12  
[Sex Offenses and Offenders.] [SOO, 1997, 1999 NCVS]

## GENDER

87% of rape victims are female  
About 13% of victims were male, higher than in previous years

## FORCE

About 7% of rapes involved the use of a weapon  
2% used a gun,  
4% used a knife.  
86% of victims reported the use of physical force only, and 7% were unsure. [2000 NCVS.]

## RELATIONSHIP TO VICTIM

69% of victims knew their attacker  
16% of offenders were intimates of the victim  
48% of offenders were friends/acquaintances of the victim  
2% of offenders were other relatives of the victim  
93% of juvenile sexual assault victims knew their attacker

## REPORTING TO POLICE

An average of 30% of victims reported their attack to police, according to the Bureau of Justice Statistics.

## ALCOHOL AND DRUGS

In about one out of three sexual assaults, the perpetrator was intoxicated—30% with alcohol, 4% with drugs. [Alcohol and Crime. Bureau of Justice Statistics, 1998]

## PERPETRATORS

In one study, 98% of males who raped boys reported that they were heterosexual. [Sexual Abuse of Boys, Journal of the American Medical Association, December 2, 1998]

## PROSECUTION AND PUNISHMENT

61% of rapes/sexual assaults are not reported to the police.

- ⇒ If the rape is reported to police, there is a 50.8% chance that an arrest will be made.
- ⇒ If an arrest is made, there is an 80% chance of prosecution.
- ⇒ If there is a prosecution, there is a 58% chance of a felony conviction.
- ⇒ If there is a felony conviction, there is a 69% chance the convict will spend time in jail.
- ⇒ So, even in the 39% of attacks that are reported to police, there is only a 16.3% chance the rapist will end up in prison.
- ⇒ Factoring in unreported rapes, about 6% of rapists—1 out of 16— will ever spend a day in jail. 15 out of 16 will walk free.

[Probability statistics compiled by NCPA from US Department of Justice statistics. See [www.ncpa.org/studies/s229/s229.html](http://www.ncpa.org/studies/s229/s229.html)]