

**New Mexico Interpersonal Violence Data Central Repository**  
**A Program of the New Mexico Coalition of Sexual Assault Programs**

In response to a 1996 VAWA funded statewide assessment on the sources and availability of domestic violence and sexual assault data in New Mexico, the New Mexico Interpersonal Violence Data Central Repository (Central Repository) was established in 1999 to house collected, standardized, annual data from statewide law enforcement agencies, service provider agencies and the courts on the crimes of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

The data are analyzed annually and two reports are published: *Sex Crimes in New Mexico* and *Incidence and Nature of Domestic Violence in New Mexico*. These reports can be found on the Coalition website ([www.nmcsap.org](http://www.nmcsap.org)), at the following link: <http://nmcsap.org/resources/reports/>, as well as the NM Crime Victims Reparation website ([www.cvrc.state.nm.us](http://www.cvrc.state.nm.us)), at the following link: <http://www.cvrc.state.nm.us/wp-content/uploads/4O1vzQ9J.pdf>.

**New Mexico Interpersonal Violence Data Central Repository**  
**Betty Caponera, PhD, Director**  
**3909 Juan Tabo NE, Suite 6**  
**Albuquerque, NM 87111**  
**Phone: 505.239.0358**  
**Fax: 505.883.7530**  
**b.caponera@comcast.net**

## Sexual Assault in New Mexico

Since the year 2000, the Central Repository has published an annual report called *Sex Crimes in New Mexico*. It reports on the incidents of reported sexual assault by statewide law enforcement. Not every law enforcement agency reports to us, but those that do represent 87% of the New Mexico population.

In a five-year trends analysis of our data from 2010-2014, there was an average of 1,454 cases of rape each year that were reported to statewide law enforcement agencies. This represents a 7% increase over the average number of law enforcement-identified rapes reported each year (1,364) during the previous four-year span (2006-2009).

The average number of rape victims identified each year by law enforcement from 2010-2014, was 1,529. This represents a 7% increase from the average number of rape victims identified by law enforcement from 2006-2009.

The Central Repository also captures data on survivors who go to statewide rape crisis and mental health centers, and on rape survivors who go to Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner units for a medical exam and/or rape kit and other forensic evidence collection as a result of their victimizations.

Sexual Assault in New Mexico In 2015:

The chart below reveals that from 2014 -2015, there was a 6% increase in the number of rapes reported to law enforcement, an 8% increase in the number of rape victims identified by law enforcement, and a 3% increase in the number of victims of non-penetration sex crimes. There was negligible differences in the number of victims served by statewide service agencies and SANE programs.

New Mexico			Change	
	2014	2015	Increase	Decrease
Rape Incidents Reported to Law Enforcement	1,432	1,514	6%	
Rape Victims Identified by Law Enforcement	1,480	1,604	8%	
Sexual Assault Victims Served by Rape Crises and Mental Health Centers	1,654	1,631		1.4%
SANE Sexual Assault Patients Served	1,023	1,018		0.5%
Non-penetration sex crimes reported to law enforcement	2,535	2,525		0.3%
Victims of non-penetration sex crimes identified by law enforcement	2,655	2,742	3.3%	

All of this annual information however, is simply the capture of the victimizations that are reported; and not even those reported everywhere, for instance, we do not capture victimizations reported to hospital emergency departments or family physicians, most sexual assaults on tribal lands, and sex crimes reported to college campuses. Similarly, when the FBI collects information from the states on the incidence of sexual assault, it is only what gets reported, i.e. what cases come to the attention of law enforcement in each state.

So, when the federal government wants to know how much sexual assault is really happening, to get a reliable estimate on the lifetime prevalence and the annual incidence of what assaults really occur, they do a randomized victimization survey. This was done in 1985, after which they produced the landmark report on *Rape In America*, where for the first time the lifetime prevalence of rape among women was reported. They did a second study between 1996-1997 with the National Violence Against Women Survey, which captured

victimizations on males and females; and in November 2000, they published the *Prevalence, Incidence and Consequences of Violence Against Women* report. However, neither of these studies were able to provide sexual assault prevalence and incidence estimates for individual states so that states could: 1) obtain baseline rates of the prevalence of interpersonal violence crimes; and, 2) compare their rates to other states and the nation.

So, in 2005, we asked for and received funding to do our first statewide violence victimization survey (SVV) in New Mexico. This survey was conducted by SRBI, Inc. a company that has done many of the landmark national victimization surveys, including *Rape in America*. The SVV gave us the first baseline rates of rape, intimate partner violence, domestic violence, and stalking in New Mexico.

In a comparison of our SVV findings to the National Violence Against Women Survey findings, we found that 15% of New Mexico Adults reported an experience of a completed or attempted rape in their lifetime compared to 11% nationally. When examined by gender: 24% of women and 5% of men reported an experience of a completed or attempted rape in their lifetime in New Mexico compared to 18% women and 3% men nationally.

	2005 New Mexico	U.S. 2000
Lifetime Completed Rape and Attempted Rape All Adults (>17)	15%	11%
Women (>17)	24% (1 in 4)	18%
Men	5% (1 in 20)	3%

Since 2010, we have asked for but haven't succeeded in obtaining funding to do a follow-up victimization survey to observe any change in the prevalence of interpersonal violence victimizations in our state. We no longer refer to the 2005 findings because the age of the data diminishes its relevance.

Fortunately, the CDC's National Center for injury Prevention and Control launched the National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (NISVS) in 2010 and it is ongoing. By the end of 2012, they had three years of data and in sufficient quantities per state, to be able to publish for the first time, lifetime prevalence rates of sexual assault, intimate partner violence, and stalking for each state. For some states, the NISVS was able to provide statistically reliable estimates of the rates of these crimes in the previous 12-month period before the survey, to estimate annual occurrence as well.

So, while we don't have our own follow-up statewide victimization survey, the NISVS provides a statistically reliable estimate of completed and attempted rape nationally for men (1.5%), a national rate for women (19.1%) and a rate for New Mexican women, (20.4%). Unfortunately, the lifetime rate of rape for men was not statistically reliable on a state level, nor were the previous 12-month rates for women or men in New Mexico.

Lifetime	NISVS Estimates 2010-2012	
	New Mexico Estimates	U.S. Estimates
Completed and Attempted Rape		
Women	20.4%	19.1%
Men	*	1.5%

\*State estimates, including New Mexico, for the lifetime rate of rape for men were not statistically reliable and therefore not provided.

So, in the absence of doing our own follow-up statewide victimization survey for New Mexico, we must use the NISVS findings for lifetime prevalence of completed and attempted rape for a comparison to our SVV 2005 baseline rates. Our 2005 rate of lifetime completed or attempted rape was 24%, (or 1 in 4) women, and the 2010-2012 average rate of lifetime completed or attempted rape in New Mexico from NISVS is 20.4%, (or 1 in 5), which represents a 3.6% decrease since 2005.

And according to the NISVS state rates for lifetime prevalence of completed or attempted rape among women, New Mexico's rate at 20.4%, ranks 20<sup>th</sup> in the country.

A subcategory of rape measured by the NISVS was drug-facilitated rape. 9.0% of women nationally and 9.3% of New Mexico women have experienced a drug-facilitated rape in their lifetime. 9.3% ranks New Mexico 21<sup>st</sup> in the country for drug/facilitated rape among women.

The NISVS found that 36.3% of women nationally and 37.5% of women in New Mexico have experienced contact sexual violence in their lifetime. Contact sexual violence includes rape (penetration) in its many forms and unwanted sexual contact which involves touching but not penetration. The 37.5% rate for women ranks New Mexico 18<sup>th</sup> in the country.

<b>Women</b>	<b>U.S.</b>	<b>New Mexico</b>	<b>National Ranking</b>
Lifetime <i>Contact Sexual Violence</i> (Rape and unwanted sexual contact involving touching but not penetration)	36.3%	37.5%	18th
Lifetime Completed Rape and Attempted Rape	19.1%	20.4%	20 <sup>th</sup>
Lifetime Drug-facilitated Rape	9.0%	9.3%	21st

The national rate of contact sexual violence in the 12-month period preceding the survey for women was 4.0% and for men was 3.7%. The rate of contact sexual violence in the 12-month period preceding the survey for women and men in New Mexico was not statistically reliable and not provided.

However, if we use the annual national rate of 4.0% for women, it would mean that there were an estimated 32,010 adult women victims (800,247 x 4.0%) of contact sexual violence in New Mexico in 2012.

Similarly, if we use the annual national rate of 3.7% for men, it would mean that there were an estimated 28,515 adult men victims (770,699 x 3.7%) of contact sexual violence in New Mexico in 2012.

Therefore, the total adult victims of contact sexual violence in New Mexico in 2012, would be 60,525. Statewide law enforcement agencies reported a total of 4,176 sexual assault incidents in 2012, which include contact sexual violence and other non-contact sex crimes.

**(Source: Annual Estimates of the Resident Population for Selected Age Groups by Sex for the United States, States, Counties, and Puerto Rico Commonwealth and Municipios: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2012 )**