Sexual Violence Against Women

**Women in the United States**

- Nearly 1 out of every 5 American women, 18 years or older, has been the victim of at least one attempted or completed rape in her lifetime.¹
- 91% of the victims of rape and sexual assault are female.²
- 1 in 9 girls under the age of 18 experience sexual abuse or assault at the hands of an adult.³
- Women are 6x more likely to be the victims of sexual assault later in life.⁴
- According to the 2019 study, *Measuring #MeToo: A National Study on Sexual Harassment and Assault*: ⁵
  - 4 in 10 women experienced cyber sexual harassment
  - 76% of women reported experiencing verbal sexual harassment
  - 49% had been groped, 27% had been followed, and 30% had been flashed

**Women in Maryland**

- About 44%, or 1,058,000, of Maryland’s women have experienced forms of sexual violence other than rape.⁶
- Approximately 391,000 Maryland women have experienced contact sexual violence by an intimate partner in their lifetime.⁷
- At the Maryland Correctional Institute for Women, 12.7% of inmates reported being sexually victimized by a fellow inmate or staff member.⁸
- A study of women in Baltimore found 17% of respondents had been sexually assaulted within three years of being surveyed.⁹
  - The same survey found that 60% of the women who had been assaulted are African American.

**Women with Intersecting Identities**

- According to a report by the NCAVP, transgender women who experienced intimate partner violence were nearly 2.5x more likely to experience sexual violence and nearly 4x more likely to experience financial abuse than survivors who did not identify as transgender women.¹⁰
- About 48.3% of lesbian women and 61.1% of bisexual women have experienced rape, physical violence, and stalking by an intimate partner at some point in their lifetime, compared to 35% of heterosexual women.¹¹
- Approximately 80% of women with developmental disabilities have been sexually assaulted—half of these women have been assaulted more than 10x.¹²
- 1 in every 4 Deaf women will experience a forced sexual experience in her lifetime.¹³
- 37.1% of Hispanic women in the United States reported that they have been the victim of rape, physical violence, and stalking by an intimate partner in their lifetime.¹⁴
- In an urban community sample of African American women, 53.7% of participants reported victimization and 44.8% reported experiencing sexual coercion in their lifetime.¹⁵
  - Only 51.7% of victims who reported needing mental health services were able to obtain services.

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¹ National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey: 2010 Summary Report
⁴ Nursing Home Abuse Center, “Sexual abuse of the Elderly,” 2019
⁷ Center for Disease Control and Prevention, National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey: 2010-2012 State Report, 2017
¹⁰ National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs, “Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer and HIV-Affected Hate and Intimate Partner Violence in 2017”
¹¹ National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, “Domestic Violence and the LGBTQ Community,” 6 June 2018
¹⁴ AVON Foundation for Women, “The No Mo Study: Domestic and Sexual Assault in the Latino@ Community,” 2015.