

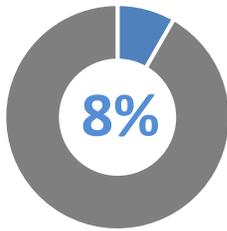


Sexual Violence in North Carolina, 2018-2019

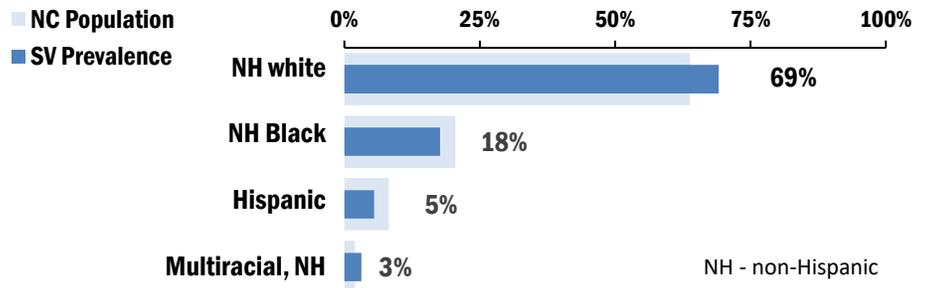
Sexual violence (SV) is defined as sexual activity without freely given consent, and is a serious issue that affects North Carolinians of all ages, races, and genders. The North Carolina (NC) Division of Public Health (DPH) is engaged in a variety of activities to better understand SV and prevent it from happening. The Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), an annual survey of NC adults, provides estimates for lifetime prevalence of SV. The BRFSS also helps to make connections between SV and health outcomes to promote the most effective interventions.

Anyone can be affected by sexual violence

Over 940,000 (8%) NC adults ever experienced sexual violence.

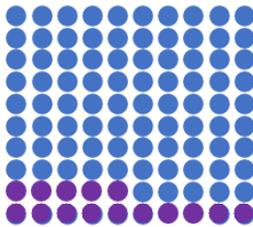


Racial trends of SV align with the population distribution of the state.

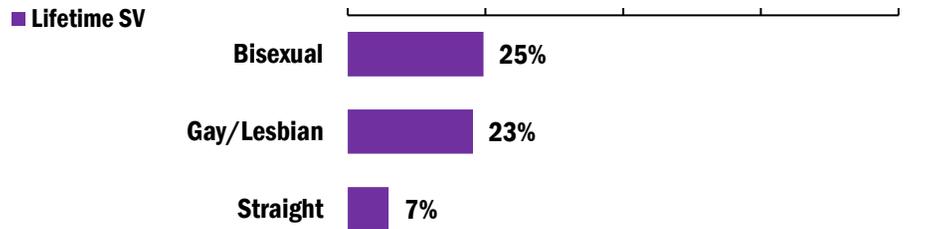


Certain groups are more vulnerable than others

85% of SV victims were female.
15% were male.



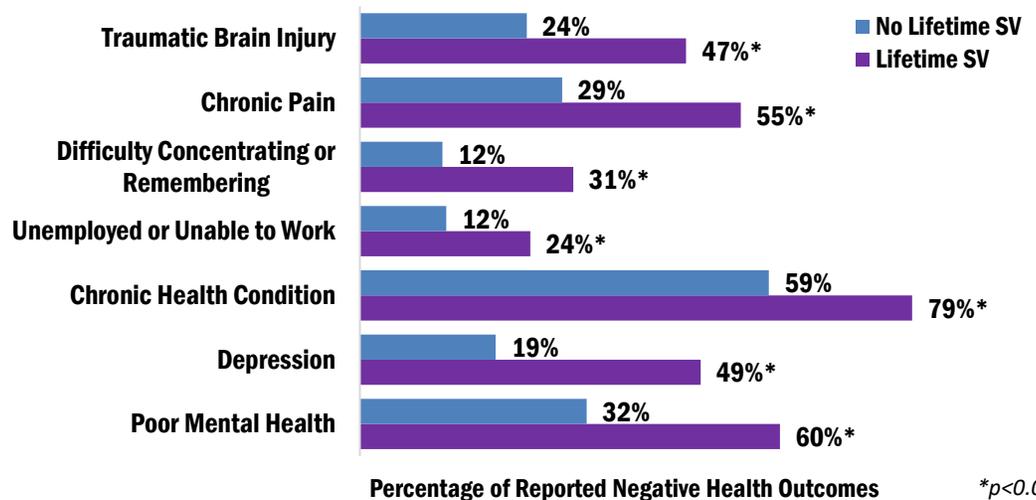
Bisexual, gay, and lesbian populations are disproportionately impacted by SV.



Sexual violence affects individuals' quality of life and may have lasting impacts on health

North Carolinians experiencing lifetime SV have significantly* higher rates of negative health outcomes.

Preventing sexual violence is important for population and individual health.



*p<0.001

Sexual Violence is Preventable

The CDC has identified evidence-based ways to stop sexual violence before it happens. The CDC's [STOP SV](#) guide describes several prevention strategies people can use in their communities. If you want to learn more about how you can help, you can contact the NC [Rape Prevention and Education \(RPE\) Program Manager](#).



Image source:
https://vetoviolence.cdc.gov/sites/all/themes/veto_bootstrap/images/sv-landing/sv-stop.png

In North Carolina, the RPE program work with partners at the state and local levels to prevent sexual violence. Local programs teach youths skills for healthy relationships, like healthy communication, empathy, and problem-solving. They also work to change social norms and make schools, bars, and other spaces safer. At the state level, RPE collaborates with college campuses, K-12 school systems, community organizations, and partners focused on preventing other kinds of violence. These partners work together to create protective schools, workplaces, and communities across the state. All RPE strategies strive to reduce disparities in sexual violence rates and improve outcomes. Learn more [here](#).

Additional Resources

National Sexual Violence Hotline at 877-513-2232

[North Carolina Injury and Violence Prevention Branch](#)

Learn more about the dynamics of SV and efforts to prevent SV in North Carolina.

[CDC: Sexual Violence](#)

Explore national data about SV prevalence, risk and protective factors, and related issues, as well as evidence-based strategies for preventing SV.

NC Coalition Against Sexual Assault

[Get Help](#): Find contact information for local SV service providers across NC. [Prevention](#): Access trainings and resources to support local SV prevention efforts.

[National Sexual Violence Resource Center](#)

Find information for survivors, friends and family of survivors, advocates and educators, and media and press.

Injury and Violence Prevention Branch / 919-707-5425 / www.injuryfreenc.ncdhhs.gov

N.C. Division of Public Health / www.ncpublichealth.com / State of North Carolina / Department of Health and Human Services /

