



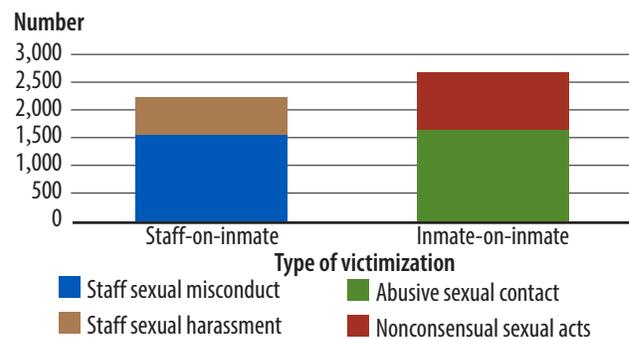
Substantiated Incidents of Sexual Victimization Reported by Adult Correctional Authorities, 2016–2018

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During 2016–18, adult correctional authorities reported 2,666 substantiated incidents of inmate sexual victimization by another inmate and 2,229 by staff (figure 1). Most (62% or 1,643) inmate-perpetrated incidents involved abusive sexual contact, while most (69% or 1,549) staff-perpetrated incidents involved staff sexual misconduct. Nearly all (99%) substantiated incidents during this period were reported by administrators of prisons or jail jurisdictions, and 1% were reported by other adult correctional facilities (not shown in tables).

Using data from the Survey of Sexual Victimization (SSV), this report features substantiated incidents reported by adult correctional authorities for the 3-year aggregate period of 2016–18. Conducted annually, the SSV, in part, fulfills BJS’s mandates under the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 (PREA; P.L. 108–79).

FIGURE 1
Number of substantiated incidents of sexual victimization, by type of victimization, 2016–18



Note: Excludes inmate-on-inmate sexual harassment. See appendix table 1 for estimates and standard errors.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Survey of Sexual Victimization, 2016–18.

HIGHLIGHTS

During 2016–18:

- Half of both inmate-on-inmate and staff-on-inmate sexual victimization incidents occurred in an area not under video surveillance.
- There were 2,886 victims of inmate-on-inmate sexual victimization and 2,496 victims of staff-on-inmate sexual victimization in adult correctional facilities.
- About 25% of victims of inmate-on-inmate nonconsensual sexual acts and 43% of victims of abusive sexual contact were female.
- The victim was given a medical examination in 61% of inmate-on-inmate nonconsensual sexual act incidents and in 36% of abusive sexual contact incidents.
- Staff-on-inmate sexual victimization was perpetrated by correctional officers or supervision staff in 64% of incidents, by maintenance or facility support staff in 13%, and by medical or health care staff in 10%.
- About 67% of staff sexual misconduct perpetrators were female and 69% of staff sexual harassment perpetrators were male.
- Legal action was ultimately taken against the perpetrator of staff sexual misconduct in more than half of incidents in jails (53%) and in a third of incidents in prisons (33%).
- The perpetrator of staff sexual misconduct was convicted, pled guilty, was sentenced, or was fined in 20% of incidents in jails, three times the share of incidents in prisons (6%).

The SSV is administered to all federal and state prison systems; all facilities operated by the U.S. military and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement; and representative samples of public and private jail jurisdictions, private prisons, and jails holding adults

in Indian country. (See *Methodology*.) This report describes the characteristics of substantiated incidents and how these vary by the type of victimization and type of facility that reported the incident.

Terms and definitions

The Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) uses uniform definitions for each sexual act and investigative outcome. Each sexual act is classified by the alleged perpetrator who carried out the incident (i.e., inmate or staff) and the type of act. In 2013, BJS modified the Survey of Sexual Victimization (SSV) to align the definitions with the national standards. BJS began collecting data on inmate-on-inmate sexual harassment in 2013, and these types of incidents are reported separately from other types of inmate-on-inmate sexual victimization. These definitions are provided for the correctional authorities to reference when responding to the survey.

Inmate-on-inmate sexual victimization involves nonconsensual sexual acts or abusive contact with a victim without his or her consent, or with a victim who cannot consent or refuse. Attempted nonconsensual sexual acts are included if they were recorded by correctional administrators. Respondents were not asked to specify the subcategory of inmate-on-inmate sexual victimization in which these attempted acts were recorded. As a result, the specific type of act is unknown and is classified as attempted nonconsensual sexual acts or as abusive sexual contact as determined by the correctional authorities.

Nonconsensual sexual acts are the most serious victimizations and include—

- contact between the penis and the vulva or the penis and the anus, including penetration, however slight
- contact between the mouth and the penis, vulva, or anus
- penetration of the anal or genital opening of another person, however slight, by a hand, finger, object, or other instrument.

Abusive sexual contact includes intentional touching, either directly or through the clothing, of the genitalia, anus, groin, breast, inner thigh, or buttocks of any person. Incidents in which the contact was incidental to a physical altercation are excluded.

Inmate-on-inmate sexual harassment includes repeated and unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or verbal comments, gestures, or actions of a derogatory or offensive sexual nature by one inmate directed toward another.

Staff-on-inmate sexual victimization includes sexual misconduct or sexual harassment perpetrated on an inmate by staff. Staff includes an employee, volunteer, contractor, official visitor, or other agency representative. Family, friends, and other visitors are excluded.

Staff sexual misconduct includes any consensual or nonconsensual behavior or act of a sexual nature directed toward an inmate by staff, including romantic relationships. Such acts include—

- intentional touching, either directly or through the clothing, of the genitalia, anus, groin, breast, inner thigh, or buttocks that is unrelated to official duties or with the intent to abuse, arouse, or gratify sexual desire
- completed, attempted, threatened, or requested sexual acts
- occurrences of indecent exposure, invasion of privacy, or staff voyeurism for reasons unrelated to official duties or for sexual gratification.

Staff sexual harassment includes repeated verbal comments or gestures of a sexual nature to an inmate by staff. Such statements include—

- demeaning references to an inmate's gender or sexually suggestive or derogatory comments about his or her body or clothing
- repeated profane or obscene language or gestures.

Substantiated incident means an allegation was investigated and determined to have occurred, based on a preponderance of the evidence (per 28 C.F.R. Part 115.72).

Measuring substantiated incidents of sexual victimization

Correctional authorities completed a substantiated incident form for any allegation of sexual victimization they investigated and determined to have occurred based on a preponderance of the evidence (per 28 C.F.R. Part 115.72). These substantiated incidents may have included multiple victims, multiple perpetrators, and events or behaviors that occurred repeatedly.

In this report, the singular “victim” and “perpetrator” are used when describing characteristics of substantiated incidents because most involved one victim and one perpetrator, including about 90% of inmate-perpetrated abusive sexual contact and staff-perpetrated sexual misconduct incidents (table 1). However, there was some variation across types of victimization. In 12% of

incidents of inmate-on-inmate sexual harassment, there were multiple victims and a single perpetrator. Eight percent of incidents of nonconsensual sexual acts involved a single victim and multiple perpetrators.

By definition, some types of sexual victimization, such as sexual harassment, include repeated comments or gestures. The incident form did not collect information about the number of separate instances that were part of an allegation that was substantiated. However, correctional authorities were instructed throughout the form to select all characteristics that may have applied to the incident (for example, selecting multiple times of day or locations to describe when and where the incident took place). See *Methodology*.

TABLE 1
Incidents involving single or multiple victims or perpetrators, by type of victimization, 2016–18

	Inmate-on-inmate						Staff-on-inmate			
	Nonconsensual sexual acts		Abusive sexual contact		Sexual harassment		Staff sexual misconduct		Staff sexual harassment	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Single victim–single perpetrator	889	87.3%	1,479	90.3%	2,968	82.8%	1,423	92.0%	585	86.6%
Multiple victims–single perpetrator	29	2.9	81	4.9	413	11.5	85	5.5	58	8.6
Single victim–multiple perpetrators	84	8.2	67	4.1	187	5.2	33	2.1	28	4.2
Multiple victims–multiple perpetrators	16	1.6!	11	0.7!	16	0.5	6	0.4!	4	0.6!

Note: Excludes 54 incidents where the number of victims or perpetrators was unknown. See appendix table 2 for standard errors.

! Interpret with caution. Estimate is based on 10 or fewer sample cases, or coefficient of variation is greater than 50%.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Survey of Sexual Victimization, 2016–18.

Inmate-on-inmate sexual victimization

1 in 3 incidents of nonconsensual sexual acts and abusive sexual contact occurred in the evening

During 2016–18, there were 1,023 substantiated incidents of nonconsensual sexual acts and 1,643 substantiated incidents of abusive sexual contact (table 2). In three-quarters (77%) of these incidents,

the victim was the person who reported the incident to correctional authorities. A third of incidents of nonconsensual sexual acts (33%) and abusive sexual contact (32%) occurred in the evening. Nearly one third of nonconsensual sexual acts occurred in the victim’s cell or room (33%), and one third of abusive sexual contact incidents occurred in common areas such as bathrooms, showers, and dayrooms (34%).

TABLE 2
Selected characteristics of substantiated incidents of inmate-on-inmate sexual victimization, by type of victimization, 2016–18

Incident characteristic	Inmate-on-inmate total	Nonconsensual sexual acts	Abusive sexual contact*
Number of incidents	2,666	1,023 †	1,643
Location			
Victim’s cell/room	26.8%	32.8% †	23.0%
Perpetrator’s cell/room	5.2	6.4 †	4.4
Dormitory	20.2	17.3 †	21.9
Common area ^a	28.2	19.6 †	33.5
Program/instructional/recreation area	11.7	7.9 †	14.0
Other area ^b	7.0	7.8	6.5
Time of day			
Morning (6 a.m.–noon)	16.6%	13.9% †	18.2%
Afternoon (noon–6 p.m.)	28.2	22.4 †	31.8
Evening (6 p.m.–midnight)	32.5	33.0	32.2
Overnight (midnight–6 a.m.)	13.3	19.8 †	9.3
Unknown	15.2	16.2	14.5
Occurred in area under video surveillance			
Yes	41.8%	31.3% †	48.4%
No	50.2	62.3 †	42.7
Unknown	7.9	6.4 †	8.9
Reported by—			
Victim	77.0%	76.6%	77.3%
Another inmate (nonvictim)	12.2	11.8	12.5
Correctional officer/front-line staff	14.8	14.9	14.7
Other facility staff ^c	4.2	5.8	3.2
Investigation/monitoring ^d	2.2	3.0	1.7
Other ^e	2.4	3.4 †	1.8

Note: Excludes inmate-on-inmate sexual harassment. Location was unknown for less than 1% of substantiated incidents of nonconsensual sexual acts and abusive sexual contact. A substantiated incident may include repeated sexual victimization events, multiple victims, multiple perpetrators, and multiple outcomes; therefore, more than one response category may be selected and column percentages may not sum to 100. See appendix table 3 for standard errors.

*Comparison group.

†Difference with comparison group is significant at the 95% confidence level.

^aIncludes bathrooms, showers, and dayrooms.

^bIncludes holding cells; while offsite or in transit; and medical, staff, and other areas.

^cIncludes administrative, medical, religious, educational, and other facility staff.

^dIncludes through grievance coordinators or processes, attorneys or legal guardians, monitoring, and confidential or anonymous tips.

^eIncludes victim family members, perpetrators, and other sources.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Survey of Sexual Victimization, 2016–18.

Across adult correctional facilities, half of inmate-on-inmate sexual victimizations (50%) occurred in areas with no video surveillance; however, this varied by victimization type and facility. A larger share of nonconsensual sexual acts (62%) than abusive sexual contact (43%) took place in areas not under video surveillance. Lower percentages of both types of victimization occurred in nonsurveilled areas in jails (54% of nonconsensual sexual acts and 37% of abusive sexual contact) than in prisons (70% and 48%) (table 3).

In jails, 19% of incidents involving nonconsensual sexual acts and 21% involving abusive sexual contact were reported by a correctional officer or front-line staff. In prisons, less than 12% of each type of victimization was reported by a correctional officer or front-line staff. Thirty-one percent of inmate-on-inmate victimizations in prisons occurred in the afternoon and 30% occurred in the evening. In jails, 25% of inmate-on-inmate victimizations occurred in the afternoon and 36% in the evening.

TABLE 3
Selected characteristics of substantiated incidents of inmate-on-inmate sexual victimization, by type of victimization and facility, 2016–18

Incident characteristic	Inmate-on-inmate total		Nonconsensual sexual acts		Abusive sexual contact	
	Prisons ^{a*}	Jails ^b	Prisons ^{a*}	Jails ^b	Prisons ^{a*}	Jails ^b
Number of incidents	1,495	1,125 †	549	468 †	946	657 †
Location						
Victim's cell/room	25.8%	28.5%	32.8%	33.0%	21.8%	25.3%
Perpetrator's cell/room	5.2	5.4	7.8	4.7 †	3.6	5.9
Dormitory	18.5	21.1	17.1	17.1	19.3	24.0
Common area ^c	27.0	29.0	20.0	19.4	31.1	35.9
Program/instructional/recreation area	13.7	8.4 †	7.3	8.4	17.4	8.5 †
Other area ^d	3.8	11.5 †	1.8!	15.0	5.0	9.0 †
Time of day						
Morning (6 a.m.–noon)	17.4%	15.4%	14.0%	13.8%	19.4%	16.5%
Afternoon (noon–6 p.m.)	30.6	24.7 †	24.2	20.3	34.3	27.8
Evening (6 p.m.–midnight)	29.6	36.4 †	33.2	32.9	27.6	38.9 †
Overnight (midnight–6 a.m.)	12.7	14.4	21.0	18.4	7.9	11.4
Unknown	15.5	14.9	14.2	18.4	16.2	12.4 †
Occurred in area under video surveillance						
Yes	33.9%	50.8% †	20.8%	43.4% †	41.5%	56.0% †
No	55.8	44.3 †	69.7	54.0 †	47.7	37.3 †
Unknown	10.3	5.0 †	9.5	2.6 †	10.8	6.6 †
Reported by—						
Victim	79.7%	72.9% †	81.4%	70.6% †	78.7%	74.5%
Another inmate (nonvictim)	10.3	14.9 †	9.8	14.3	10.6	15.3 †
Correctional officer/front-line staff	11.3	19.8 †	11.9	18.6 †	10.9	20.7 †
Other facility staff ^e	3.6	4.5	4.4	7.5	3.2	2.5
During investigation/monitoring ^f	2.4	2.0!	2.6	3.6!	2.3	0.8!
Other ^g	2.4	2.6	3.4	3.4!	1.8	2.0

Note: Excludes inmate-on-inmate sexual harassment. Location was unknown for less than 1% of substantiated incidents of nonconsensual sexual acts and abusive sexual contact. A substantiated incident may include repeated sexual victimization events, multiple victims, multiple perpetrators, and multiple outcomes; therefore, more than one response category may be selected and column percentages may not sum to 100. See appendix table 4 for standard errors.

*Comparison group.

†Difference with comparison group is significant at the 95% confidence level.

! Interpret with caution. Estimate is based on 10 or fewer sample cases, or coefficient of variation is greater than 50%.

^aIncludes state and Federal Bureau of Prisons facilities and privately operated prisons holding persons for state and federal authorities.

^bIncludes local and private jails.

^cIncludes bathrooms, showers, and dayrooms.

^dIncludes holding cells; while offsite or in transit; and medical, staff, and other areas.

^eIncludes administrative, medical, religious, educational, and other facility staff.

^fIncludes through grievance coordinators or processes, attorneys or legal guardians, monitoring, and confidential or anonymous tips.

^gIncludes victim family members, perpetrators, and other sources.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Survey of Sexual Victimization, 2016–18.

2,886 inmates were victims of nonconsensual sexual acts or abusive sexual contact in adult correctional facilities

During 2016–18, about 70% of victims of inmate-on-inmate sexual victimization were white, 17% were black, 11% were Hispanic, and 3% were some other race (table 4). About 2% of victims of inmate-on-inmate incidents were transgender or intersex. Males accounted for proportionally more victims of nonconsensual sexual acts (73%) than abusive sexual contact (55%). Persons age 24 or younger made up a larger share of nonconsensual sexual act victims (30%) than abusive sexual contact victims (26%).

TABLE 4
Demographic characteristics of victims in substantiated incidents of inmate-on-inmate sexual victimization, by type of victimization, 2016–18

Demographic characteristic	Inmate-on-inmate total	Nonconsensual sexual acts	Abusive sexual contact*
Number of victims	2,886	1,101 †	1,786
Sex/gender identity			
Male	61.7%	72.6% †	54.9%
Female	35.9	24.8 †	42.8
Transgender/intersex ^a	2.4	2.6	2.3
Age			
24 or younger	27.3%	29.6% †	25.8%
25–29	24.1	28.0	21.8
30–34	19.4	17.7	20.5
35–39	10.5	10.9	10.3
40–44	8.0	6.0 †	9.2
45 or older	10.7	7.8 †	12.5
Race/ethnicity			
White ^b	69.7%	71.0%	68.9%
Black ^b	16.6	15.1 †	17.5
Hispanic	10.9	10.0	11.4
Other ^{b,c}	2.8	3.9 †	2.2

Note: Excludes inmate-on-inmate sexual harassment. See appendix table 5 for standard errors.

*Comparison group.

†Difference with comparison group is significant at the 95% confidence level.

^aTransgender and intersex categories were combined to produce reliable estimates.

^bExcludes persons of Hispanic origin (e.g., “white” refers to non-Hispanic white persons and “black” refers to non-Hispanic black persons).

^cIncludes American Indians or Alaska Natives, Asians, Native Hawaiians or Other Pacific Islanders, and persons of two or more races.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Survey of Sexual Victimization, 2016–18.

83% of nonconsensual sexual act perpetrators were male

During 2016–18, a total of 1,194 inmates perpetrated nonconsensual sexual acts and 1,782 perpetrated abusive sexual contact in adult correctional facilities (table 5). About 83% of nonconsensual sexual act perpetrators and 64% of abusive sexual contact perpetrators were male. Black inmates accounted for a larger proportion of perpetrators of nonconsensual sexual acts (53%) than abusive sexual contact (34%). The reverse was true for white inmates: proportionally more were perpetrators of abusive sexual contact (46%) than nonconsensual sexual acts (33%).

TABLE 5
Demographic characteristics of perpetrators in substantiated incidents of inmate-on-inmate sexual victimization, by type of victimization, 2016–18

Demographic characteristic	Inmate-on-inmate total	Nonconsensual sexual acts	Abusive sexual contact*
Number of perpetrators	2,976	1,194 †	1,782
Sex/gender identity			
Male	71.7%	82.5% †	64.4%
Female	27.6	16.6 †	35.0
Transgender/intersex ^a	0.7	0.8 †	0.6 †
Age			
24 or younger	18.5%	17.6%	19.1%
25–29	21.3	22.4	20.6
30–34	18.0	17.3	18.5
35–39	12.4	13.4	11.7
40–44	8.0	8.4	7.7
45 or older	21.8	20.9	22.4
Race/ethnicity			
White ^b	40.9%	32.8% †	46.2%
Black ^b	41.7	52.7 †	34.3
Hispanic	12.6	10.4	14.1
Other ^{b,c}	4.8	4.1 †	5.3

Note: Excludes inmate-on-inmate sexual harassment. See appendix table 6 for standard errors.

*Comparison group.

†Difference with comparison group is significant at the 95% confidence level.

! Interpret with caution. Estimate is based on 10 or fewer sample cases, or coefficient of variation is greater than 50%.

^aTransgender and intersex categories were combined to produce reliable estimates.

^bExcludes persons of Hispanic origin (e.g., “white” refers to non-Hispanic white persons and “black” refers to non-Hispanic black persons).

^cIncludes American Indians or Alaska Natives, Asians, Native Hawaiians or Other Pacific Islanders, and persons of two or more races.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Survey of Sexual Victimization, 2016–18.

15% of nonconsensual sexual acts resulted in physical injury to the victim

Across adult correctional facilities during 2016–18, about 9% of substantiated incidents of inmate-on-inmate sexual victimization resulted in physical injury

to the victim and 4% resulted in major injuries such as stab wounds, broken bones, or internal injuries (table 6). Physical injury to the victim was reported in three times the share of incidents of nonconsensual sexual acts (15%) than of abusive sexual contact (5%).

TABLE 6

Outcomes for victims and perpetrators in substantiated incidents of inmate-on-inmate sexual victimization, by type of victimization, 2016–18

Outcome of incident	Inmate-on-inmate total	Nonconsensual sexual acts	Abusive sexual contact*
Number of incidents	2,666	1,023 †	1,643
Victim injured			
No	90.8%	84.7% †	94.6%
Yes	9.2	15.3 †	5.4
Major injury ^a	3.7	8.3 †	0.8
Other injury ^b	6.7	9.4 †	5.0
Medical treatment/follow-up for victim			
Given medical examination	45.5%	61.3% †	35.7%
Administered rape kit	14.1	32.3 †	2.7
Tested for HIV/AIDS	9.3	20.6 †	2.3
Tested for other STDs	10.0	22.4 †	2.3
Provided counseling/mental health treatment	55.5	64.5 †	50.0
Was offered but declined testing/treatment, or had already been released/discharged	14.0	11.4 †	15.6
No medical treatment offered/provided	23.2	14.5 †	28.6
Housing/custody change for victim			
Separated from perpetrator	77.3%	74.0% †	79.4%
Placed in administrative segregation	15.1	23.0 †	10.2
Transferred to another housing unit or given a single cell/room	13.3	16.9 †	11.1
Confined to own cell/room	5.7	9.5 †	3.3
Transferred to another facility	5.2	9.9 †	2.3
Placed in medical unit	4.9	8.0 †	2.9
Other ^c	8.7	10.3	7.8
None of the above	8.4	8.8	8.2
Custody change/sanction for perpetrator			
Placed in solitary/disciplinary custody	57.7%	61.5% †	55.4%
Transferred to another cell/unit or separated from victim	35.7	32.7 †	37.5
Placed in higher custody level within same facility	17.6	20.8 †	15.6
Confined to own cell/room	12.6	14.5	11.4
Transferred to another facility	11.8	16.4 †	8.9
Lost privileges	48.8	42.2 †	53.0
Lost good time/acquired bad time	7.4	7.6	7.4
Referred for counseling/treatment	6.3	6.8	6.0
Legal action	36.3	49.5 †	28.1
Arrested	19.4	26.1 †	15.2
Referred for prosecution/indicted	24.1	36.0 †	16.8
Convicted/sentenced/fined	3.0	4.4 †	2.2
Other ^d	3.2	3.2	3.1
None of the above	0.6	0.5 †	0.6 †

Note: Excludes inmate-on-inmate sexual harassment. A substantiated incident may include repeated sexual victimization events, multiple victims, multiple perpetrators, and multiple outcomes; therefore, more than one response category may be selected and column percentages may not sum to 100. See appendix table 7 for standard errors.

*Comparison group.

†Difference with comparison group is significant at the 95% confidence level.

! Interpret with caution. Estimate is based on 10 or fewer sample cases, or coefficient of variation is greater than 50%.

^aIncludes knife or stab wounds, broken bones, anal or vaginal tearing, chipped or knocked-out teeth, internal injuries, and knocked unconscious.

^bIncludes bruises, abrasions, scratches, soreness, bites, burns, swelling, and welts.

^cIncludes being placed in a higher custody level or different unit within the facility, placed under increased supervision or close surveillance, issued a disciplinary report or loss of privileges, or given some other sanction.

^dIncludes being given extra work or some other sanction.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Survey of Sexual Victimization, 2016–18.

The victim was provided counseling or mental health treatment in 64% of nonconsensual sexual act incidents and 50% of abusive sexual contact incidents. In 29% of abusive sexual contact incidents in adult correctional facilities, the victim was not offered or provided medical treatment.

More than three quarters (77%) of incidents of inmate-on-inmate sexual victimization resulted in the victim and perpetrator being separated within the facility. In nearly a quarter (23%) of nonconsensual sexual act incidents, the victim was placed in administrative segregation.

The perpetrator was placed in solitary or disciplinary custody in 62% of nonconsensual sexual acts and 55% of abusive sexual contact incidents. Half (49%) of nonconsensual sexual act incidents resulted in some form of legal action for the perpetrator. In 36% of these incidents, the perpetrator was referred for prosecution

or indicted; 4% of the incidents led to the perpetrator being convicted, given a new sentence, or fined. Legal action occurred in 28% of substantiated incidents of abusive sexual contact.

The victim was transferred to another housing unit or a single cell or room in 18% of inmate-on-inmate sexual victimizations in jails and 10% of incidents in prisons (table 7). The perpetrator was transferred to another cell or unit or separated from the victim in 44% of jail incidents and 30% of prison incidents.

About 3 in 10 nonconsensual sexual acts in prisons resulted in the victim being tested for HIV/AIDS (29%) or other STDs (32%). In jails, about 1 in 10 nonconsensual sexual acts led to such testing (11% HIV/AIDS and 11% other STDs). The victim was not offered or given medical treatment for abusive sexual contact in 40% of incidents in jails and 22% of incidents in prisons.

TABLE 7

Outcomes for victims and perpetrators in substantiated incidents of inmate-on-inmate sexual victimization, by type of victimization and facility, 2016–18

Outcome of incident	Inmate-on-inmate total		Nonconsensual sexual acts		Abusive sexual contact	
	Prisons ^{a*}	Jails ^b	Prisons ^{a*}	Jails ^b	Prisons ^{a*}	Jails ^b
Number of incidents	1,495	1,125 †	549	468 †	946	657 †
Victim injured						
No	90.2%	91.3%	82.9%	86.5%	94.4%	94.8%
Yes	9.8	8.7	17.1	13.5	5.6	5.2
Major injury ^c	3.7	3.9	8.2	8.6	1.1!	0.5!
Other injury ^d	7.2	6.0	11.0	7.7	5.1	4.8
Medical treatment/follow-up for victim						
Given medical examination	56.5%	29.1% †	75.3%	44.4% †	45.5%	18.3% †
Administered rape kit	16.2	11.8 †	40.0	23.5 †	2.3	3.4
Tested for HIV/AIDS	12.5	5.5 †	29.2	10.8 †	2.9	1.7!
Tested for other STDs	13.4	5.8 †	31.7	11.5 †	2.8	1.8!
Provided counseling/ mental health treatment	64.7	42.4 †	72.7	55.0 †	60.0	33.4 †
Was offered but declined testing/ treatment, or had already been released/discharged	8.6	21.6 †	7.8	15.7 †	9.1	25.9 †
No medical treatment offered/provided	16.8	32.5 †	8.4	22.0 †	21.7	39.9 †
Housing/custody change for victim						
Separated from perpetrator	76.5%	78.4%	72.5%	76.1%	78.8%	80.0%
Placed in administrative segregation	17.5	12.4 †	28.5	16.8 †	11.1	9.3
Transferred to another housing unit or given a single cell/room	9.9	18.1 †	12.3	22.2 †	8.6	15.2 †
Confined to own cell/room	4.1	7.8 †	6.9	12.6 †	2.4	4.4
Transferred to another facility	8.5	1.0!	16.9	1.9!	3.7	0.5!
Placed in medical unit	5.1	4.8	8.4	7.7	3.2	2.7
Other ^e	7.4	8.8	8.8	12.0	6.7	6.5
None of the above	8.4	8.5	8.4	8.9	8.4	8.2

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TABLE 7 (continued)**Outcomes for victims and perpetrators in substantiated incidents of inmate-on-inmate sexual victimization, by type of victimization and facility, 2016–18**

Outcome of incident	Inmate-on-inmate total		Nonconsensual sexual acts		Abusive sexual contact	
	Prisons ^{a*}	Jails ^b	Prisons ^{a*}	Jails ^b	Prisons ^{a*}	Jails ^b
Custody change/sanction for perpetrator						
Placed in solitary/disciplinary custody	55.3%	59.7%	60.7%	62.4%	52.1%	57.8%
Transferred to another cell/unit or separated from victim	29.9	43.7 †	26.9	39.8 †	31.6	46.4 †
Placed in higher custody level within same facility	11.9	25.0 †	16.4	25.8 †	9.2	24.4 †
Confined to own cell/room	7.0	19.9 †	7.3	23.2 †	6.8	17.6 †
Transferred to another facility	17.7	4.2 †	26.2	5.2 †	12.8	3.5 †
Lost privileges	53.5	42.5 †	45.0	38.9	58.4	45.0 †
Lost good time/acquired bad time	10.8	3.1 †	11.5	3.1 !	10.5	3.0 †
Referred for counseling/treatment	7.9	3.2 †	9.8	3.2 !	6.7	3.2 †
Legal action	32.3	41.1 †	48.6	50.7	22.8	34.3 †
Arrested	16.7	22.5	21.6	31.5 †	13.8	16.1
Referred for prosecution/indicted	21.3	27.4 †	38.8	32.7 †	11.2	23.6 †
Convicted/sentenced/fined	1.3	5.4 †	1.8 !	7.4	1.1 !	3.9
Other ^f	4.9	0.9 !	5.3	0.8 !	4.6	0.9 !
None of the above	0.7 !	0.5 !	0.8 !	0.2 !	0.6 !	0.6 !

Note: Excludes inmate-on-inmate sexual harassment. A substantiated incident may include repeated sexual victimization events, multiple victims, multiple perpetrators, and multiple outcomes; therefore, more than one response category may be selected and column percentages may not sum to 100. See appendix table 8 for standard errors.

*Comparison group.

†Difference with comparison group is significant at the 95% confidence level.

! Interpret with caution. Estimate is based on 10 or fewer sample cases, or coefficient of variation is greater than 50%.

^aIncludes state and Federal Bureau of Prisons facilities and privately operated prisons holding persons for state and federal authorities.

^bIncludes local and private jails.

^cIncludes knife or stab wounds, broken bones, anal or vaginal tearing, chipped or knocked-out teeth, internal injuries, and knocked unconscious.

^dIncludes bruises, abrasions, scratches, soreness, bites, burns, swelling, and welts.

^eIncludes being placed in a higher custody level or different unit within the facility, placed under increased supervision or close surveillance, issued a disciplinary report or loss of privileges, or given some other sanction.

^fIncludes being given extra work or some other sanction.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Survey of Sexual Victimization, 2016–18.

Staff-on-inmate sexual victimization

10% of staff-perpetrated sexual victimizations in prisons and 3% in jails occurred in staff areas

During 2016–18, staff in adult correctional facilities perpetrated 2,229 substantiated incidents of sexual victimization: 1,549 sexual misconduct incidents and 680 sexual harassment incidents (table 8). About 34% of staff-on-inmate sexual victimization incidents occurred in an area under video surveillance. Less than 8% of staff-on-inmate sexual victimization incidents occurred overnight between midnight and 6 a.m. A smaller share of staff sexual harassment

incidents (25%) occurred in program, instructional, or recreation areas than staff sexual misconduct incidents (34%).

Nearly 3 in 4 (73%) incidents of staff sexual harassment were reported by the victim, compared to about 1 in 4 (26%) incidents of staff sexual misconduct. Four percent of staff sexual harassment incidents were discovered during an investigation or monitoring, compared to 19% of staff sexual misconduct incidents. Over half of staff sexual harassment incidents (54%) occurred in an area under video surveillance, compared to a quarter of staff sexual misconduct incidents (25%).

TABLE 8
Selected characteristics of substantiated incidents of staff-on-inmate sexual victimization, by type of victimization, 2016–18

Incident characteristic	Staff-on-inmate total	Staff sexual misconduct*	Staff sexual harassment
Number of incidents	2,229	1,549	680
Location			
Victim's cell/room	9.7%	9.6%	9.7%
Dormitory	9.9	8.2	14.0 †
Common area ^a	15.6	13.0	21.5 †
Program/instructional/recreation area	31.6	34.3	25.5 †
Staff area	8.1	9.9	4.0 †
Medical area	6.6	7.6	4.4 †
Other area ^b	16.8	18.2	13.7
Time of day			
Morning (6 a.m.–noon)	22.2%	20.5%	26.0%
Afternoon (noon–6 p.m.)	27.8	26.6	30.6
Evening (6 p.m.–midnight)	19.5	17.9	22.9
Overnight (midnight–6 a.m.)	7.2	8.0	5.4 †
Unknown	34.5	38.8	24.8 †
Occurred in area under video surveillance			
Yes	33.8%	25.0%	53.7% †
No	50.1	57.6	32.9 †
Unknown	16.1	17.3	13.4 †
Reported by—			
Victim	40.3%	25.8%	73.4% †
Another inmate (nonvictim)	16.3	19.8	8.1 †
Correctional officer/front-line staff	21.1	24.3	13.9 †
Other facility staff ^c	11.5	13.4	7.3 †
Investigation/monitoring ^d	14.6	19.2	4.3 †
Other ^e	6.0	6.8	4.0 †

Note: Location was unknown for 6% of staff-on-inmate victimization incidents. A substantiated incident may include repeated sexual victimization events, multiple victims, multiple perpetrators, and multiple outcomes; therefore, more than one response category may be selected and column percentages may not sum to 100. See appendix table 9 for standard errors.

*Comparison group.

†Difference with comparison group is significant at the 95% confidence level.

^aIncludes bathrooms, showers, and dayrooms.

^bIncludes holding cells and while offsite or in transit.

^cIncludes administrative, medical, religious, educational, and other facility staff.

^dIncludes through grievance coordinators or processes, attorneys or legal guardians, monitoring, and confidential or anonymous tips.

^eIncludes victim family members, perpetrators, and other sources.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Survey of Sexual Victimization, 2016–18.

About half of staff-on-inmate sexual victimizations in jails (50%) and a quarter of such incidents in prisons (27%) took place in areas under video surveillance (table 9). Staff sexual misconduct occurred in staff areas in 5% of incidents in jails and 12% of incidents in prisons. Staff sexual harassment took place in common areas such as bathrooms, showers, and dayrooms in 31% of incidents in jails and 16% of incidents in prisons.

In jails, almost 1 in 10 incidents of staff sexual misconduct was discovered during investigation or monitoring. About 22% of such incidents in prisons were discovered during investigation or monitoring. Staff sexual misconduct was reported by correctional staff in 18% of incidents in jails and 26% of incidents in prisons.

TABLE 9
Selected characteristics of substantiated incidents of staff-on-inmate sexual victimization, by type of victimization and facility, 2016–18

Incident characteristic	Staff-on-inmate total		Staff sexual misconduct		Staff sexual harassment	
	Prisons ^{a*}	Jails ^b	Prisons ^{a*}	Jails ^b	Prisons ^{a*}	Jails ^b
Number of incidents	1,605	610 †	1,181	357 †	425	253 †
Location						
Victim's cell/room	7.6%	15.4% †	7.6%	16.8% †	7.5%	13.4%
Dormitory	11.0	6.6 †	9.6	2.8!	14.9	12.1
Common area ^c	12.8	22.5 †	11.7	16.7	15.9	30.8 †
Program/instructional/ recreation area	32.0	30.8	35.1	31.9	23.3	29.3
Staff area	10.0	3.3 †	11.5	4.9 †	5.7	1.2!
Medical area	5.9	8.3	6.4	11.7	4.7	3.6!
Other area ^d	18.0	13.9	18.6	17.5	16.4	9.0
Time of day						
Morning (6 a.m.–noon)	20.7%	25.8%	19.9%	22.5%	23.0%	30.5%
Afternoon (noon–6 p.m.)	26.9	30.2	25.4	30.4	31.0	30.0
Evening (6 p.m.–midnight)	18.7	22.0	17.4	20.4	22.2	24.2
Overnight (midnight–6 a.m.)	5.6	10.9 †	6.4	12.6 †	3.5	8.5!
Unknown	39.2	22.5 †	43.4	23.9 †	27.5	20.5
Occurred in area under video surveillance						
Yes	27.5%	50.1% †	21.0%	37.7% †	45.4%	67.8% †
No	52.7	43.1 †	57.9	57.0	38.4	23.5 †
Unknown	19.8	6.8 †	21.1	5.3 †	16.2	8.8!
Reported by—						
Victim	33.9%	57.2% †	20.4%	43.2% †	71.2%	76.9%
Another inmate (nonvictim)	14.7	19.9	17.7	26.2	6.4	11.0
Correctional officer/ front-line staff	22.0	18.7	26.2	17.7 †	10.1	20.3
Other facility staff ^e	12.7	8.3 †	14.4	9.6	8.0	6.3
Investigation/monitoring ^f	17.7	6.5 †	22.1	9.3 †	5.2	2.4!
Other ^g	6.1	5.8	7.0	6.5	3.5	4.7!

Note: Location was unknown for 6% of staff-on-inmate victimization incidents. A substantiated incident may include repeated sexual victimization events, multiple victims, multiple perpetrators, and multiple outcomes; therefore, more than one response category may be selected and column percentages may not sum to 100. See appendix table 10 for standard errors.

*Comparison group.

†Difference with comparison group is significant at the 95% confidence level.

! Interpret with caution. Estimate is based on 10 or fewer sample cases, or coefficient of variation is greater than 50%.

^aIncludes state and Federal Bureau of Prisons facilities and privately operated prisons holding persons for state and federal authorities.

^bIncludes local and private jails.

^cIncludes bathrooms, showers, and dayrooms.

^dIncludes holding cells and while offsite or in transit.

^eIncludes administrative, medical, religious, educational, and other facility staff.

^fIncludes through grievance coordinators or processes, attorneys or legal guardians, monitoring, and confidential or anonymous tips.

^gIncludes victim family members, perpetrators, and other sources.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Survey of Sexual Victimization, 2016–18.

About 51% of victims of staff-on-inmate incidents were white, 36% were black, and 11% were Hispanic

During 2016–18, there were 791 victims of staff sexual harassment and 1,705 victims of staff sexual misconduct (table 10). Fifty-one percent of victims of staff-on-inmate victimization in adult correctional facilities were white, 36% were black, 11% were Hispanic, and 3% were some other race. About 72% of victims were male and 27% were female. Persons who were transgender or intersex accounted for 3% of victims of staff sexual harassment.

TABLE 10
Demographic characteristics of victims in substantiated incidents of staff-on-inmate sexual victimization, by type of victimization, 2016–18

Demographic characteristic	Staff-on-inmate total	Staff sexual misconduct*	Staff sexual harassment
Number of victims	2,496	1,705	791 †
Sex/gender identity			
Male	71.5%	71.3%	71.8%
Female	27.3	28.5	24.7
Transgender/intersex ^a	1.2	0.2 †	3.5
Age			
24 or younger	13.7%	12.9%	15.7%
25–29	27.2	28.3	24.7
30–34	24.3	25.3	21.9
35–39	16.8	17.2	15.7
40–44	8.4	9.4	6.3 †
45 or older	9.6	6.9	15.8 †
Race/ethnicity			
White ^b	50.8%	48.2%	56.4% †
Black ^b	35.6	37.0	32.5
Hispanic	10.5	11.8	7.7 †
Other ^{b,c}	3.1	3.0	3.5

Note: See appendix table 11 for standard errors.

*Comparison group.

†Difference with comparison group is significant at the 95% confidence level.

! Interpret with caution. Estimate is based on 10 or fewer sample cases, or coefficient of variation is greater than 50%.

^aTransgender and intersex categories were combined to produce reliable estimates.

^bExcludes persons of Hispanic origin (e.g., “white” refers to non-Hispanic white persons and “black” refers to non-Hispanic black persons).

^cIncludes American Indians or Alaska Natives, Asians, Native Hawaiians or Other Pacific Islanders, and persons of two or more races.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Survey of Sexual Victimization, 2016–18.

Two-thirds (67%) of staff sexual misconduct perpetrators were female and one-third were male (33%)

There were 1,598 perpetrators of staff sexual misconduct and 716 perpetrators of staff sexual harassment during 2016–18 (table 11). About 69% of staff perpetrators of sexual harassment were male, and 67% of staff perpetrators of sexual misconduct were female. Persons age 45 or older accounted for proportionally more staff perpetrators of sexual harassment (31%) than sexual misconduct (24%).

TABLE 11
Demographic characteristics of perpetrators in substantiated incidents of staff-on-inmate sexual victimization, by type of victimization, 2016–18

Demographic characteristic	Staff-on-inmate total	Staff sexual misconduct*	Staff sexual harassment
Number of perpetrators	2,314	1,598	716 †
Sex			
Male	43.9%	32.6%	69.4% †
Female	56.1	67.4	30.6 †
Age			
24 or younger	14.4%	14.6%	14.1%
25–29	18.0	20.2	13.2 †
30–34	17.1	16.2	19.3
35–39	13.4	13.9	12.2
40–44	11.1	11.6	10.2
45 or older	25.9	23.6	31.1 †
Race/ethnicity			
White ^a	61.3%	61.1%	61.7%
Black ^a	27.0	27.4	26.2
Hispanic	8.0	8.4	7.3
Other ^{a,b}	3.7	3.1	4.9 †

Note: See appendix table 12 for standard errors.

*Comparison group.

†Difference with comparison group is significant at the 95% confidence level.

^aExcludes persons of Hispanic origin (e.g., “white” refers to non-Hispanic white persons and “black” refers to non-Hispanic black persons).

^bIncludes American Indians or Alaska Natives, Asians, Native Hawaiians or Other Pacific Islanders, and persons of two or more races.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Survey of Sexual Victimization, 2016–18.

About 80% of staff-on-inmate sexual victimizations in adult correctional facilities involved perpetrators who were employed full time, while 17% involved those employed as contractors (table 12). Correctional officers or supervision staff perpetrated 64% of staff-on-inmate incidents. Staff employed in a facility for less than 6 months perpetrated a smaller share of incidents of sexual harassment (12%) than sexual misconduct (19%). Staff employed for more than 10 years were perpetrators in 17% of sexual harassments incidents and 9% of sexual misconduct incidents.

TABLE 12
Employment characteristics of perpetrators in substantiated incidents of staff-on-inmate sexual victimization, by type of victimization, 2016–18

Employment characteristic	Staff-on-inmate total	Staff sexual misconduct*	Staff sexual harassment
Number of incidents	2,229	1,549	680 †
Type of employee			
Full-time	80.1%	78.9%	82.8%
Contractor	17.0	17.8	15.2
Other ^a	2.4	2.9	1.3!
Position description			
Administrative/ clerical staff ^b	1.6%	2.1%	0.4%!
Correctional officer/ supervision staff	64.3	61.7	70.2 †
Maintenance/ other facility support staff	12.6	13.6	10.6
Medical/health care staff	9.7	9.9	9.4
Program staff ^c	4.2	5.0	2.4 †
Other staff	8.6	9.5	6.4
Tenure at facility			
Less than 6 months	16.8%	18.8%	12.2% †
6 months–1 year	23.0	24.6	19.3
1–5 years	36.8	35.6	39.6
5–10 years	10.2	9.9	11.0
More than 10 years	11.3	8.8	16.8 †

Note: See appendix table 13 for standard errors.

*Comparison group.

†Difference with comparison group is significant at the 95% confidence level.

! Interpret with caution. Estimate is based on 10 or fewer sample cases, or coefficient of variation is greater than 50%.

^aIncludes volunteers, interns, and other employees.

^bIncludes wardens, superintendents, secretaries, clerks, and receptionists.

^cIncludes instructors, teachers, librarians, education assistants, volunteers, and other educational or program staff.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Survey of Sexual Victimization, 2016–18.

Legal action against the staff perpetrator occurred in less than 5% of sexual harassment incidents, compared to 38% of sexual misconduct incidents

During 2016–18, more than 99% of staff-on-inmate sexual victimizations in adult correctional facilities

did not result in physical injury to the victim (table 13). Victims most commonly received no medical treatment (38% of incidents) or received counseling or mental health treatment (36%) after a staff-on-inmate incident. Staff sexual harassment resulted in a medical examination of the victim in 10% of incidents, compared to 26% of incidents of staff

TABLE 13

Outcomes for victims and perpetrators in substantiated incidents of staff-on-inmate sexual victimization, by type of victimization, 2016–18

Outcome of incident	Staff-on-inmate total	Staff sexual misconduct*	Staff sexual harassment
Number of incidents	2,229	1,549	680 †
Victim injured			
No	99.5%	99.4%	99.7% †
Yes	0.5	0.6!	0.3!
Major injury ^a	0.0!	0.1!	0.0
Other injury ^b	0.4!	0.4!	0.3!
Medical treatment/follow-up for victim			
Given medical examination	21.3%	26.1%	10.3% †
Administered rape kit	1.2	1.7	0.0
Tested for HIV/AIDS	2.3	3.2	0.3!
Tested for other STDs	2.9	4.0	0.3!
Provided counseling/mental health treatment	35.9	35.6	36.6
Was offered but declined testing/treatment, or had already been released/discharged	21.3	24.1	14.9 †
No medical treatment offered/provided	38.4	35.0	46.2 †
Housing/custody change for victim			
Separated from perpetrator	53.3%	52.8%	54.2%
Placed in administrative segregation	15.1	18.6	7.2 †
Transferred to another housing unit or given a single cell/room	2.9	3.6	1.3!
Confined to own cell/room	3.4	3.6	2.9
Transferred to another facility	13.3	16.4	6.2 †
Placed in medical unit	1.1	1.1	1.2!
Other ^c	9.5	10.9	6.2 †
None of the above	24.2	20.4	32.8 †
Sanction for perpetrator			
Sent to training/counseling	5.2%	1.7%	13.1% †
Reprimanded/disciplined	18.8	8.0	43.4 †
Demoted/given diminished responsibilities/suspended	6.4	4.9	10.0 †
Transferred to another facility/unit	2.9	1.7	5.6 †
Legal action	28.0	38.1	4.9 †
Arrested	26.5	36.0	4.9 †
Referred for prosecution/indicted	22.1	30.6	2.7!
Convicted/pled guilty/sentenced/fined	7.4	9.8	1.8!
Discharged/terminated/contract not renewed	38.2	44.0	24.9 †
Perpetrator resigned before investigation completed	27.2	33.3	13.3 †
Perpetrator resigned after investigation completed	7.0	7.4	6.1
Other ^d	5.8	5.2	7.1

Note: No action was taken against the perpetrator in less than 1% of substantiated incidents of staff sexual misconduct and staff sexual harassment. A substantiated incident may include repeated sexual victimization events, multiple victims, multiple perpetrators, and multiple outcomes; therefore, more than one response category may be selected and column percentages may not sum to 100. See appendix table 14 for standard errors.

*Comparison group.

†Difference with comparison group is significant at the 95% confidence level.

! Interpret with caution. Estimate is based on 10 or fewer sample cases, or coefficient of variation is greater than 50%.

^aIncludes knife or stab wounds, broken bones, anal or vaginal tearing, chipped or knocked-out teeth, internal injuries, and knocked unconscious.

^bIncludes bruises, abrasions, scratches, soreness, bites, burns, swelling, and welts.

^cIncludes being placed in a higher custody level or different unit within the facility, placed under increased supervision or close surveillance, issued a disciplinary report or loss of privileges, or given some other sanction.

^dIncludes referral to a regulatory or licensing board, clearance rescinded, or some other sanction.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Survey of Sexual Victimization, 2016–18.

sexual misconduct. More than half of incidents of staff sexual misconduct (53%) and staff sexual harassment (54%) resulted in separation of the victim and perpetrator within the facility. It was more common for the victim's housing or custody to remain unchanged following staff sexual harassment (33% of incidents) than staff sexual misconduct (20%).

Staff sexual misconduct led to the perpetrator's discharge, termination, or employment contract not being renewed in 44% of incidents. While 38% of staff sexual misconduct incidents led to legal action, the perpetrator faced legal action in less than 5% of sexual harassment incidents. About 43% of perpetrators were reprimanded or disciplined following incidents of staff sexual harassment.

20% of sexual misconduct incidents in jails and 6% of incidents in prisons resulted in a conviction, guilty plea, sentence, or fine for the staff perpetrator

In victimizations involving sexual misconduct by staff, the victim declined medical follow-up or was released

or discharged in 34% of jail incidents and 21% of prison incidents (table 14). Staff sexual misconduct led to a medical examination of the victim in 7% of incidents in jails and 32% of incidents in prisons. The victim was separated from the staff perpetrator of sexual misconduct following about half of incidents in prisons (54%) and jails (50%).

The staff perpetrator of sexual harassment was discharged, terminated, or denied contract renewal in 35% of incidents in jails and 19% of incidents in prisons. The staff perpetrator of sexual misconduct in prisons had resigned before the investigation was completed following 40% of incidents. The perpetrator of staff sexual misconduct was arrested in 50% of incidents that occurred in jails and 32% of such incidents in prisons. Such incidents led to the perpetrator's conviction, guilty plea, sentence, or fine in 20% of jail incidents and 6% of prison incidents.

TABLE 14
Outcomes for victims and perpetrators in substantiated incidents of staff-on-inmate sexual victimization, by type of victimization and facility, 2016–18

Outcome of incident	Staff-on-inmate total		Staff sexual misconduct		Staff sexual harassment	
	Prisons ^{a*}	Jails ^b	Prisons ^{a*}	Jails ^b	Prisons ^{a*}	Jails ^b
Number of incidents	1,605	610 †	1,181	357 †	425	253 †
Victim injured						
No	99.6%	99.3% †	99.4%	99.4%	100%	99.1% †
Yes	0.4!	0.7!	0.6!	0.6!	0.0	0.9!
Major injury ^c	0.1!	0.0	0.1!	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other injury ^d	0.2!	0.7!	0.3!	0.6!	0.0	0.8!
Medical treatment/follow-up for victim						
Given medical examination	26.5%	7.3% †	31.6%	7.4% †	12.3%	7.1% †
Administered rape kit	1.4	0.8!	1.9	1.4!	0.0	0.0
Tested for HIV/AIDS	2.3	2.1!	3.0	3.7!	0.5!	0.0
Tested for other STDs	3.6	0.8!	4.8	1.4!	0.5!	0.0
Provided counseling/mental health treatment	38.4	29.2 †	40.0	20.7 †	34.0	41.3
Was offered but declined testing/treatment, or had already been released/discharged	18.9	27.7 †	21.3	33.8 †	12.2	19.1
No medical treatment offered/provided	37.3	41.4	32.1	44.6 †	51.7	36.9 †
Housing/custody change for victim						
Separated from perpetrator	52.9%	54.9%	53.8%	50.4%	50.2%	61.2%
Placed in administrative segregation	17.6	8.1 †	20.9	9.8 †	8.2	5.5!
Transferred to another housing unit or given a single cell/room	2.2	4.8	2.5	7.4	1.4!	1.2!
Confined to own cell/room	2.6	5.6 †	2.6	6.9	2.4!	3.9!
Transferred to another facility	12.6	15.3	15.5	19.4	4.2	9.6!
Placed in medical unit	0.9	1.7!	0.9	1.7!	0.9!	1.6!
Other ^e	9.0	10.7	10.7	12.2	4.5	8.6!
None of the above	24.5	23.6	20.5	20.5	35.6	28.0

Continued on next page

TABLE 14 (continued)**Outcomes for victims and perpetrators in substantiated incidents of staff-on-inmate sexual victimization, by type of victimization and facility, 2016–18**

Outcome of incident	Staff-on-inmate total		Staff sexual misconduct		Staff sexual harassment	
	Prisons ^{a*}	Jails ^b	Prisons ^{a*}	Jails ^b	Prisons ^{a*}	Jails ^b
Sanction for perpetrator						
Sent to training/counseling	3.1%	10.5% †	0.8% !	4.6% !	9.7%	18.7%
Reprimanded/disciplined	16.3	25.3 †	7.4	10.3	41.2	46.6
Demoted/given diminished responsibilities/suspended	4.9	10.1	4.7	4.7	5.4	17.6 †
Transferred to another facility/unit	3.5	1.5 !	1.8	1.4 !	8.0	1.6 !
Legal action	25.3	34.6 †	33.5	52.9 †	2.6	8.9 !
Arrested	24.1	32.7 †	31.9	49.5 †	2.6	8.9 !
Referred for prosecution/indicted	22.2	21.8	29.7	33.5	1.2 !	5.3 !
Convicted/pled guilty/sentenced/fined	4.7	13.6 †	6.4	20.0 †	0.0	4.7 !
Discharged/terminated/contract not renewed	35.9	44.0 †	42.0	50.0	18.7	35.4 †
Perpetrator resigned before investigation completed	34.0	9.8 †	39.7	12.9 †	18.1	5.5 !
Perpetrator resigned after investigation completed	5.8	10.3	6.3	11.3	4.5	8.9 !
Other ^f	6.8	2.9 !	6.6	0.3 !	7.4	6.6 !

Note: No action was taken against the perpetrator in less than 1% of substantiated incidents of staff sexual misconduct and staff sexual harassment. A substantiated incident may include repeated sexual victimization events, multiple victims, multiple perpetrators, and multiple outcomes; therefore, more than one response category may be selected and column percentages may not sum to 100. See appendix table 15 for standard errors.

*Comparison group.

†Difference with comparison group is significant at the 95% confidence level.

! Interpret with caution. Estimate is based on 10 or fewer sample cases, or coefficient of variation is greater than 50%.

^aIncludes state and Federal Bureau of Prisons facilities and privately operated prisons holding persons for state and federal authorities.

^bIncludes local and private jails.

^cIncludes knife or stab wounds, broken bones, anal or vaginal tearing, chipped or knocked-out teeth, internal injuries, and knocked unconscious.

^dIncludes bruises, abrasions, scratches, soreness, bites, burns, swelling, and welts.

^eIncludes being placed in a higher custody level or different unit within the facility, placed under increased supervision or close surveillance, issued a disciplinary report or loss of privileges, or given some other sanction.

^fIncludes referral to a regulatory or licensing board, clearance rescinded, or some other sanction.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Survey of Sexual Victimization, 2016–18.

Inmate-on-inmate sexual harassment

80% of inmate-on-inmate sexual harassment incidents were reported by the victim and 12% were reported by a correctional officer or front-line staff

During the 3-year period of 2016–18, there were 3,642 substantiated incidents of inmate-on-inmate sexual harassment in adult correctional facilities (table 15). These incidents most often took place in common areas such as bathrooms, showers, and dayrooms

(35% of incidents), dormitories (23%), and the victim’s cell or room (23%). Across adult correctional facilities, inmate-on-inmate sexual harassment was reported by the victim in 80% of incidents and reported by a correctional officer or front-line staff in 12% of incidents. About 58% of inmate-on-inmate sexual harassment incidents in jails and 33% of such incidents in prisons occurred in areas with video surveillance.

TABLE 15

Selected characteristics of substantiated incidents of inmate-on-inmate sexual harassment, by type of facility, 2016–18

Incident characteristic	All facilities ^a	Prisons ^{b*}	Jails ^c
Number of incidents	3,642	1,737	1,880
Location			
Victim’s cell/room	22.9%	25.3%	21.0%
Perpetrator’s cell/room	6.2	5.0	7.3 †
Dormitory	22.6	19.5	25.0 †
Common area ^d	34.8	30.5	38.9 †
Program/instructional/recreation area	9.9	15.1	5.0 †
Other area ^e	6.9	4.1	9.3 †
Time of day			
Morning (6 a.m.–noon)	19.5%	21.2%	17.6% †
Afternoon (noon–6 p.m.)	26.1	25.7	26.2
Evening (6 p.m.–midnight)	28.0	25.0	30.7 †
Overnight (midnight–6 a.m.)	5.8	4.0	7.3 †
Unknown	28.6	34.3	23.5 †
Occurred in area under video surveillance			
Yes	46.4%	33.0%	58.5% †
No	42.1	50.1	35.0 †
Unknown	11.5	16.9	6.6 †
Reported by—			
Victim	80.0%	80.9%	79.1%
Another inmate (nonvictim)	10.3	11.1	9.6
Correctional officer/front-line staff	11.6	7.8	15.2 †
Other facility staff ^f	3.2	2.7	3.7
Investigation/monitoring ^g	2.6	3.1	2.2
Other ^h	1.2	0.9	1.5

Note: Location was unknown for less than 2% of substantiated incidents. A substantiated incident may include repeated sexual victimization events, multiple victims, multiple perpetrators, and multiple outcomes; therefore, more than one response category may be selected and column percentages may not sum to 100. See appendix table 16 for standard errors.

*Comparison group.

†Difference with comparison group is significant at the 95% confidence level.

^aIncludes state and Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) facilities, privately operated prisons holding persons for state and federal authorities, local and private jails, jails in Indian country, and facilities operated by the U.S. military and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

^bIncludes state and BOP facilities and privately operated prisons holding persons for state and federal authorities.

^cIncludes local and private jails.

^dIncludes bathrooms, showers, and dayrooms.

^eIncludes holding cells; while offsite or in transit; and medical, staff, and other areas.

^fIncludes administrative, medical, religious, educational, and other facility staff.

^gIncludes through grievance coordinators or processes, attorneys or legal guardians, monitoring, and confidential or anonymous tips.

^hIncludes victim family members, perpetrators, and other sources.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Survey of Sexual Victimization, 2016–18.

Continued on next page

Inmate-on-inmate sexual harassment (continued)

66% of victims and 76% of perpetrators of inmate-on-inmate sexual harassment were male

A total of 4,324 inmates were sexually harassed by another inmate in adult correctional facilities (table 16). About 66% of victims were male, 31% were female, and 3% were transgender or intersex. About 66% of victims were white, 19% were black, 10% were Hispanic, and 5% were some other race.

In adult correctional facilities, a total of 3,908 inmates perpetrated the sexual harassment of another inmate. About 76% of perpetrators were male, 23% were female, and 1% were transgender or intersex. Nearly 50% of perpetrators were white, 35% were black, 10% were Hispanic, and 5% were some other race.

TABLE 16

Demographic characteristics of victims and perpetrators in substantiated incidents of inmate-on-inmate sexual harassment, 2016–18

Demographic characteristic	Victims	Perpetrators
Number	4,324	3,908
Sex/gender identity		
Male	66.5%	75.7%
Female	30.7	23.3
Transgender/intersex ^a	2.8	1.0
Age		
24 or younger	22.6%	18.5%
25–29	23.3	21.2
30–34	19.8	14.7
35–39	11.1	15.6
40–44	7.8	8.5
45 or older	15.4	21.6
Race/ethnicity		
White ^b	65.8%	49.5%
Black ^b	18.9	35.0
Hispanic	10.4	10.5
Other ^{b,c}	4.9	5.0

Note: See appendix table 17 for standard errors.

^aTransgender and intersex categories were combined to produce reliable estimates.

^bExcludes persons of Hispanic origin (e.g., “white” refers to non-Hispanic white persons and “black” refers to non-Hispanic black persons).

^cIncludes American Indians or Alaska Natives, Asians, Native Hawaiians or Other Pacific Islanders, and persons of two or more races.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Survey of Sexual Victimization, 2016–18.

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Inmate-on-inmate sexual harassment (continued)

The victim was separated from the perpetrator in 72% of inmate-on-inmate sexual harassment incidents in adult correctional facilities (table 17). The victim was transferred to another housing unit or given a single room in 15% of incidents in jails and 8% of incidents in prisons. In prisons, the victim received a post-incident medical examination following 19% of incidents and was provided counseling or mental health treatment following 45% of incidents. No medical treatment was offered or provided following half (52%) of incidents in jails.

Across adult correctional facilities, nearly half (48%) of incidents of inmate-on-inmate sexual harassment resulted in the perpetrator being placed in solitary or disciplinary custody. The perpetrator did not often face legal action. Legal action was taken in 5% of all incidents. Perpetrators were sanctioned with a loss of privileges in 38% of incidents in jails and 55% of incidents in prisons.

TABLE 17

Outcomes for victims and perpetrators in substantiated incidents of inmate-on-inmate sexual harassment, by type of facility, 2016–18

Outcome of incident	All facilities ^a	Prisons ^{b*}	Jails ^c
Number of incidents	3,642	1,737	1,880 †
Victim injured			
No	99.0%	98.6%	99.3% †
Yes	1.0	1.4	0.7 †
Major injury ^d	0.1!	0.3!	0.0
Other injury ^e	1.0	1.4	0.6 †
Medical treatment/follow-up for victim			
Given medical examination	13.5%	18.7%	8.2% †
Administered rape kit	0.1!	0.1!	0.0
Tested for HIV/AIDS	0.2!	0.3!	0.0
Tested for other STDs	0.2!	0.3!	0.1!
Provided counseling/mental health treatment	38.0	45.1	31.1 †
Was offered but declined testing/treatment, or had already been released/discharged	12.0	7.8	15.9 †
No medical treatment offered/provided	47.7	43.7	51.8 †
Housing/custody change for victim			
Separated from perpetrator	72.4%	71.5%	73.2%
Placed in administrative segregation	6.7	7.3	6.0
Transferred to another housing unit or given a single cell/room	11.7	7.8	15.5 †
Confined to own cell/room	4.2	2.2	6.2 †
Transferred to another facility	1.0	1.6	0.4!
Placed in medical unit	1.6	1.6	1.6
Other ^f	6.2	4.7	7.5 †
None of the above	15.1	19.0	11.6 †
Custody change/sanction for perpetrator			
Placed in solitary/disciplinary custody	47.9%	46.3%	49.0%
Transferred to another cell/unit or separated from victim	39.6	35.2	43.7 †
Placed in higher custody level within same facility	12.3	7.1	17.0 †
Confined to own cell/room	13.6	8.3	18.7 †
Transferred to another facility	7.7	11.0	4.5 †
Lost privileges	45.9	54.6	37.8 †
Lost good time/acquired bad time	7.0	9.6	4.5 †

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Inmate-on-inmate sexual harassment (continued)

TABLE 17 (continued)

Outcomes for victims and perpetrators in substantiated incidents of inmate-on-inmate sexual harassment, by type of facility, 2016–18

Outcome of incident	All facilities ^a	Prisons ^{b*}	Jails ^c
Referred for counseling/treatment	6.4	5.5	7.3
Legal action	4.9	3.7	6.0 †
Arrested	2.1	1.8	2.3
Referred for prosecution/indicted	3.1	2.1	4.0 †
Convicted/sentenced/fined	0.3 †	0.2 †	0.4 †
Other ^g	4.3	5.8	2.9 †
None of the above	1.2	0.9	1.4 †

Note: A substantiated incident may include repeated sexual victimization events, multiple victims, multiple perpetrators, and multiple outcomes; therefore, more than one response category may be selected and column percentages may not sum to 100. See appendix table 18 for standard errors.

*Comparison group.

†Difference with comparison group is significant at the 95% confidence level.

! Interpret with caution. Estimate is based on 10 or fewer sample cases, or coefficient of variation is greater than 50%.

^aIncludes state and Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) facilities, privately operated prisons holding persons for state and federal authorities, local and private jails, jails in Indian country, and facilities operated by the U.S. military and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

^bIncludes state and BOP facilities and privately operated prisons holding persons for state and federal authorities.

^cIncludes local and private jails.

^dIncludes knife or stab wounds, broken bones, anal or vaginal tearing, chipped or knocked-out teeth, internal injuries, and knocked unconscious.

^eIncludes bruises, abrasions, scratches, soreness, bites, burns, swelling, and welts.

^fIncludes being placed in a higher custody level or different unit within the facility, placed under increased supervision or close surveillance, issued a disciplinary report or loss of privileges, or given some other sanction.

^gIncludes being given extra work or some other sanction.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Survey of Sexual Victimization, 2016–18.

Methodology

Sampling and survey instruments

The sampling designs for the 2016, 2017, and 2018 Survey of Sexual Victimization (SSV) varied by the type of facility covered by the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003. On behalf of the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS), the U.S. Census Bureau sent survey instruments to correctional administrators in the Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP), state prison systems, private prisons, public and private jail jurisdictions, jails in Indian country, and facilities operated by the U.S. military and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). See *Sexual Victimization Reported by Adult Correctional Authorities, 2016–2018* (NCJ 255356, BJS, June 2021) for details about the sampling design for each year and type of facility.

Correctional authorities that were sampled, in scope or in operation, and responded to the SSV instrument in each year submitted an incident form for every substantiated allegation of sexual victimization. This form asked for information about the characteristics of the incident, victim, inmate perpetrator, and staff perpetrator. The form asked for demographic details about sex or gender identity, age, and race or ethnicity for up to 15 victims and up to eight inmate perpetrators per incident. Gender, age, and race or ethnicity were collected for up to eight staff perpetrators per incident.

Correctional authorities reported only known information about the incident. For items that had multiple options to describe the incident, such as the location, time, reporting party, and nature of the incident, respondents were instructed to mark all options that applied. For items such as the outcomes or consequences for the persons involved, respondents were directed to mark characteristics that applied to all victims, all inmate perpetrators, or all staff perpetrators in the incident.

Weighting and estimates

Survey responses were weighted to produce national estimates of substantiated incidents. Because SSV data represent a full enumeration of substantiated incidents from respondents, the only weights applied accounted for the initial sampling design and nonresponse at the facility or system level. Data from the BOP, all state prison systems, U.S. military facilities, and ICE facilities were given a weight of 1.00 because they were selected with certainty, and all responded. Public jails,

private jails, Indian country jails, and private prison facilities were assigned an initial sampling weight equal to the inverse probability of selection. Nonresponse adjustment calculations were made and applied for sampled facility types. See *Sexual Victimization Reported by Adult Correctional Authorities, 2016–2018* (NCJ 255356, BJS, June 2021) for details about nonresponse adjustment calculations and for lists of nonresponding facilities.

The 2016, 2017, and 2018 data files for substantiated incidents were combined for analysis, and the sampling information and weights were retained to produce national estimates of counts and percentages. The aggregated incident file was used in analyses that present incident characteristics or characteristics applying to all persons involved. Separate datasets with victims, inmate perpetrators, and staff perpetrators as the unit of analysis were used to produce national estimates of the demographic characteristics of these individuals. Estimates and their associated standard errors were calculated using IBM SPSS Statistics Complex Samples functions. This package uses the Taylor series linearization method for direct variance estimation.

Standard errors and tests of significance

When national estimates are derived from a sample, caution must be used when comparing one estimate to another or when comparing estimates over time. Although one estimate may be larger than another, estimates based on a sample have some degree of sampling error. The sampling error of an estimate depends on several factors, including response rates, amount of variation in the responses, and size of the sample.

One measure of the sampling error associated with an estimate is the standard error. The standard error may vary from one estimate to the next. Generally, an estimate with a small standard error provides a more reliable approximation of the true value than an estimate with a large standard error. Estimates with relatively large standard errors are associated with less precision and reliability and should be interpreted with caution. Standard errors are included in the appendix tables.

Readers may use the estimates and standard errors of the estimates provided in this report to generate a 95% confidence interval around the estimates (e.g., numbers and percentages) and around differences between estimates. Typically, multiplying the standard error by 1.96 then adding or subtracting the result

from the estimate produces the confidence interval. This interval expresses the range of values within which the true population parameter is expected to fall 95% of the time if the same sampling method is used to select different samples. For example, table 2 shows that an estimated 32.8% of incidents of nonconsensual sexual acts occurred in the victim's cell or room, and appendix table 3 shows a standard error of 1.51% for that estimate. The 95% confidence interval for the percentage is $32.8\% \pm 1.96 \times 1.51$, resulting in a confidence interval of 29.8% to 35.8%.

The standard errors were used to determine whether differences in estimated numbers and percentages in this report were statistically significant once sampling error was considered. Differences in this report were tested and noted for significance at the 95% level of confidence. Readers should reference the tables for testing on specific findings. Unless otherwise noted,

findings described in this report as higher, lower, or different passed a test at the 0.05 level of statistical significance (95% confidence level). In all tables providing detailed comparisons, differences that are significant at the 95% confidence level have been designated with a dagger (†). The comparison group has been designated with an asterisk (*).

For small samples and estimates close to zero, using the standard error to construct the 95% confidence interval may not be reliable because the interval may contain zero. Therefore, estimates may not be distinguishable from zero. Any estimates based on 10 or fewer sample cases or estimates that had a coefficient of variation higher than 50% were noted with an exclamation point (!) in the tables. No tests of statistical significance for differences across groups were conducted with these estimates.

APPENDIX TABLE 1

Estimates and standard errors for figure 1: Number of substantiated incidents of sexual victimization, by type of victimization, 2016–18

Type of victimization	Number	Standard error
Inmate-on-inmate total	2,666	61
Nonconsensual sexual acts	1,023	32
Abusive sexual contact	1,643	55
Staff-on-inmate total	2,229	50
Staff sexual misconduct	1,549	37
Staff sexual harassment	680	39

Note: Excludes inmate-on-inmate sexual harassment.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Survey of Sexual Victimization, 2016–18.

APPENDIX TABLE 2

Standard errors for table 1: Incidents involving single or multiple victims or perpetrators, by type of victimization, 2016–18

	Inmate-on-inmate						Staff-on-inmate			
	Nonconsensual sexual acts		Abusive sexual contact		Sexual harassment		Staff sexual misconduct		Staff sexual harassment	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Single victim–single perpetrator	29	1.29%	53	0.88%	50	1.78%	36	0.57%	38	1.30%
Multiple victims–single perpetrator	8	0.78	12	0.72	74	1.86	5	0.34	3	0.68
Single victim–multiple perpetrators	9	0.84	8	0.51	18	0.49	7	0.46	7	1.07
Multiple victims–multiple perpetrators	8	0.76	2	0.11	4	0.10	1	0.10	1	0.22

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Survey of Sexual Victimization, 2016–18.

APPENDIX TABLE 3**Standard errors for table 2: Selected characteristics of substantiated incidents of inmate-on-inmate sexual victimization, by type of victimization, 2016–18**

Incident characteristic	Inmate-on-inmate total	Nonconsensual sexual acts	Abusive sexual contact
Number of incidents	61	32	55
Location			
Victim's cell/room	0.94%	1.51%	1.20%
Perpetrator's cell/room	0.47	0.46	0.71
Dormitory	0.82	1.09	1.16
Common area	1.48	1.45	2.09
Program/instructional/recreation area	0.55	1.08	0.65
Other area	0.56	1.30	0.40
Time of day			
Morning (6 a.m.–noon)	0.64%	1.11%	0.80%
Afternoon (noon–6 p.m.)	1.46	1.51	2.11
Evening (6 p.m.–midnight)	1.07	1.55	1.44
Overnight (midnight–6 a.m.)	0.66	1.18	0.73
Unknown	0.70	1.27	0.80
Occurred in area under video surveillance			
Yes	1.34%	1.63%	1.79%
No	1.25	1.61	1.60
Unknown	0.35	0.23	0.57
Reported by—			
Victim	0.84%	1.36%	1.08%
Another inmate (nonvictim)	0.77	1.33	0.95
Correctional officer/front-line staff	0.69	0.83	1.00
Other facility staff	0.41	1.02	0.18
Investigation/monitoring	0.29	0.74	0.11
Other	0.18	0.42	0.10

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Survey of Sexual Victimization, 2016–18.

APPENDIX TABLE 4

Standard errors for table 3: Selected characteristics of substantiated incidents of inmate-on-inmate sexual victimization, by type of victimization and facility, 2016–18

Incident characteristic	Inmate-on-inmate total		Nonconsensual sexual acts		Abusive sexual contact	
	Prisons	Jails	Prisons	Jails	Prisons	Jails
Number of incidents	46	39	12	29	44	32
Location						
Victim’s cell/room	0.81%	1.92%	0.81%	3.17%	1.03%	2.53%
Perpetrator’s cell/room	0.16	1.09	0.18	0.97	0.17	1.73
Dormitory	0.63	1.73	0.39	2.34	1.00	2.42
Common area	2.26	1.88	1.74	2.42	3.26	2.60
Program/instructional/ recreation area	0.42	1.22	0.17	2.35	0.82	1.25
Other area	0.24	1.27	0.45	2.71	0.32	0.87
Time of day						
Morning (6 a.m.–noon)	0.54%	1.34%	0.32%	2.40%	0.91%	1.56%
Afternoon (noon–6 p.m.)	2.16	1.80	1.65	2.63	3.12	2.47
Evening (6 p.m.–midnight)	1.01	2.06	0.85	3.23	1.44	2.67
Overnight (midnight–6 a.m.)	0.39	1.46	0.48	2.52	0.37	1.71
Unknown	0.50	1.51	0.32	2.73	0.79	1.70
Occurred in area under video surveillance						
Yes	2.01%	2.09%	0.47%	3.33%	2.80%	2.66%
No	1.73	2.08	0.69	3.32	2.32	2.62
Unknown	0.32	0.76	0.22	0.33	0.51	1.27
Reported by—						
Victim	0.72%	1.71%	0.58%	2.90%	1.12%	2.11%
Another inmate (nonvictim)	0.47	1.69	0.22	2.86	0.74	2.08
Correctional officer/ front-line staff	0.44	1.49	0.32	1.83	0.65	2.19
Other facility staff	0.21	0.94	0.49	2.13	0.15	0.39
During investigation/ monitoring	0.08	0.69	0.06	1.61	0.11	0.23
Other	0.18	0.34	0.45	0.76	0.09	0.23

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Survey of Sexual Victimization, 2016–18.

APPENDIX TABLE 5**Standard errors for table 4: Demographic characteristics of victims in substantiated incidents of inmate-on-inmate sexual victimization, by type of victimization, 2016–18**

Demographic characteristic	Inmate-on-inmate total	Nonconsensual sexual acts	Abusive sexual contact
Number of victims	63	35	56
Sex/gender identity			
Male	1.34%	1.81%	1.74%
Female	1.37	1.84	1.79
Transgender/intersex	0.11	0.09	0.17
Age			
24 or younger	0.93%	1.54%	1.13%
25–29	0.95	1.60	1.13
30–34	1.40	1.23	2.11
35–39	0.54	1.06	0.58
40–44	0.63	0.95	0.83
45 or older	0.39	0.44	0.59
Race/ethnicity			
White	0.86%	1.21%	1.18%
Black	0.56	0.67	0.82
Hispanic	0.54	0.93	0.64
Other	0.14	0.33	0.11

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Survey of Sexual Victimization, 2016–18.

APPENDIX TABLE 6**Standard errors for table 5: Demographic characteristics of perpetrators in substantiated incidents of inmate-on-inmate sexual victimization, by type of victimization, 2016–18**

Demographic characteristic	Inmate-on-inmate total	Nonconsensual sexual acts	Abusive sexual contact
Number of perpetrators	60	33	55
Sex/gender identity			
Male	1.01%	1.34%	1.48%
Female	1.01	1.34	1.48
Transgender/intersex	0.05	0.03	0.09
Age			
24 or younger	1.47%	1.40%	2.26%
25–29	0.89	1.55	1.07
30–34	0.78	1.12	1.07
35–39	0.42	0.64	0.57
40–44	0.45	0.51	0.67
45 or older	0.74	1.11	1.00
Race/ethnicity			
White	1.09%	1.58%	1.61%
Black	1.06	1.53	1.32
Hispanic	1.40	0.77	2.24
Other	0.31	0.21	0.50

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Survey of Sexual Victimization, 2016–18.

APPENDIX TABLE 7

Standard errors for table 6: Outcomes for victims and perpetrators in substantiated incidents of inmate-on-inmate sexual victimization, by type of victimization, 2016–18

Outcome of incident	Inmate-on-inmate total	Nonconsensual sexual acts	Abusive sexual contact
Number of incidents	61	32	55
Victim injured			
No	0.41%	0.89%	0.33%
Yes	0.41	0.89	0.33
Major injury	0.17	0.46	0.03
Other injury	0.37	0.78	0.32
Medical treatment/follow-up for victim			
Given medical examination	1.11%	1.79%	1.24%
Administered rape kit	0.67	1.48	0.24
Tested for HIV/AIDS	0.36	0.89	0.20
Tested for other STDs	0.37	0.93	0.20
Provided counseling/mental health treatment	1.32	1.74	1.70
Was offered but declined testing/treatment, or had already been released/discharged	0.90	1.27	1.26
No medical treatment offered/provided	1.54	1.36	2.21
Housing/custody change for victim			
Separated from perpetrator	0.90%	1.40%	1.16%
Placed in administrative segregation	0.78	1.48	0.75
Transferred to another housing unit or given a single cell/room	0.84	1.67	0.84
Confined to own cell/room	0.58	1.26	0.49
Transferred to another facility	0.45	1.10	0.13
Placed in medical unit	0.20	0.40	0.21
Other	0.63	1.17	0.68
None of the above	0.59	0.90	0.78
Custody change/sanction for perpetrator			
Placed in solitary/disciplinary custody	1.30%	1.65%	1.81%
Transferred to another cell/unit or separated from victim	1.09	1.61	1.49
Placed in higher custody level within same facility	0.85	1.30	1.11
Confined to own cell/room	0.74	1.43	0.75
Transferred to another facility	0.56	1.28	0.34
Lost privileges	1.23	1.61	1.79
Lost good time/acquired bad time	0.25	0.43	0.31
Referred for counseling/treatment	0.34	0.35	0.51
Legal action	1.39	1.63	2.20
Arrested	1.58	1.66	2.41
Referred for prosecution/indicted	0.88	1.49	0.99
Convicted/sentenced/fined	0.37	0.81	0.32
Other	0.17	0.29	0.22
None of the above	0.04	0.10	0.03

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Survey of Sexual Victimization, 2016–18.

APPENDIX TABLE 8

Standard errors for table 7: Outcomes for victims and perpetrators in substantiated incidents of inmate-on-inmate sexual victimization, by type of victimization and facility, 2016–18

Outcome of incident	Inmate-on-inmate total		Nonconsensual sexual acts		Abusive sexual contact	
	Prisons	Jails	Prisons	Jails	Prisons	Jails
Number of incidents	46	39	12	29	44	32
Victim injured						
No	0.32%	0.89%	0.43%	1.85%	0.27%	0.75%
Yes	0.32	0.89	0.43	1.85	0.27	0.75
Major injury	0.11	0.39	0.19	0.98	0.05	0.04
Other injury	0.23	0.81	0.30	1.67	0.24	0.72
Medical treatment/follow-up for victim						
Given medical examination	1.74%	1.65%	1.71%	3.19%	2.14%	1.46%
Administered rape kit	0.83	1.17	1.33	2.58	0.11	0.57
Tested for HIV/AIDS	0.39	0.74	0.66	1.65	0.14	0.46
Tested for other STDs	0.41	0.75	0.72	1.68	0.13	0.46
Provided counseling/mental health treatment	2.00	2.03	1.63	3.31	2.82	2.26
Was offered but declined testing/treatment, or had already been released/discharged	0.27	1.97	0.18	2.70	0.43	2.76
No medical treatment offered/provided	2.48	1.96	0.46	2.85	3.68	2.57
Housing/custody change for victim						
Separated from perpetrator	0.82%	1.85%	0.77%	2.94%	1.13%	2.44%
Placed in administrative segregation	0.84	1.49	1.56	2.56	0.52	1.73
Transferred to another housing unit or given a single cell/room	0.78	1.67	1.90	2.93	0.40	1.94
Confined to own cell/room	0.22	1.32	0.49	2.65	0.12	1.20
Transferred to another facility	0.78	0.20	1.81	0.47	0.25	0.04
Placed in medical unit	0.16	0.43	0.19	0.83	0.15	0.48
Other	0.53	1.29	0.50	2.47	0.77	1.27
None of the above	0.33	1.32	0.46	1.89	0.45	1.84
Custody change/sanction for perpetrator						
Placed in solitary/disciplinary custody	1.72%	1.93%	1.38%	3.21%	2.47%	2.45%
Transferred to another cell/unit or separated from victim	1.08	2.05	1.64	3.13	1.52	2.66
Placed in higher custody level within same facility	0.40	1.83	0.56	2.76	0.43	2.47
Confined to own cell/room	0.22	1.65	0.17	3.01	0.32	1.73
Transferred to another facility	0.86	0.74	1.65	1.62	0.60	0.49
Lost privileges	1.66	2.08	1.04	3.34	2.76	2.63
Lost good time/acquired bad time	0.33	0.46	0.26	0.84	0.49	0.51
Referred for counseling/treatment	0.30	0.72	0.22	0.67	0.42	1.14
Legal action	2.10	2.00	1.17	3.30	3.64	2.50
Arrested	2.58	1.73	1.75	3.04	4.06	1.85
Referred for prosecution/indicted	0.91	1.68	1.38	2.72	0.53	2.17
Convicted/sentenced/fined	0.04	0.86	0.04	1.76	0.05	0.78
Other	0.28	0.21	0.45	0.29	0.35	0.30
None of the above	0.07	0.03	0.19	0.03	0.03	0.05

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Survey of Sexual Victimization, 2016–18.

APPENDIX TABLE 9**Standard errors for table 8: Selected characteristics of substantiated incidents of staff-on-inmate sexual victimization, by type of victimization, 2016–18**

Incident characteristic	Staff-on-inmate total	Staff sexual misconduct	Staff sexual harassment
Number of incidents	50	37	39
Location			
Victim's cell/room	0.83%	0.91%	1.76%
Dormitory	0.41	0.25	1.27
Common area	0.98	0.92	2.44
Program/instructional/recreation area	1.16	1.20	2.59
Staff area	0.26	0.35	0.29
Medical area	0.61	0.85	0.40
Other area	1.13	1.24	2.27
Time of day			
Morning (6 a.m.–noon)	1.07%	0.98%	2.69%
Afternoon (noon–6 p.m.)	1.06	1.10	2.47
Evening (6 p.m.–midnight)	1.28	1.03	3.32
Overnight (midnight–6 a.m.)	0.56	0.65	1.10
Unknown	1.15	1.21	2.54
Occurred in area under video surveillance			
Yes	1.34%	1.08%	3.05%
No	1.31	1.20	2.79
Unknown	0.71	0.68	1.75
Reported by—			
Victim	1.31%	1.28%	1.94%
Another inmate (nonvictim)	0.98	1.14	1.72
Correctional officer/front-line staff	1.01	1.05	2.24
Other facility staff	0.61	0.82	0.57
Investigation/monitoring	0.47	0.64	0.25
Other	0.40	0.54	0.44

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Survey of Sexual Victimization, 2016–18.

APPENDIX TABLE 10**Standard errors for table 9: Selected characteristics of substantiated incidents of staff-on-inmate sexual victimization, by type of victimization and facility, 2016–18**

Incident characteristic	Staff-on-inmate total		Staff sexual misconduct		Staff sexual harassment	
	Prisons	Jails	Prisons	Jails	Prisons	Jails
Number of incidents	30	40	17	33	27	28
Location						
Victim's cell/room	0.19%	2.94%	0.20%	3.79%	0.48%	4.60%
Dormitory	0.24	1.32	0.18	0.65	0.99	3.00
Common area	0.63	3.14	0.77	3.13	1.20	5.94
Program/instructional/ recreation area	0.77	3.74	0.77	4.51	1.49	6.33
Staff area	0.24	0.65	0.25	1.06	0.36	0.54
Medical area	0.17	2.17	0.19	3.56	0.30	0.94
Other area	1.20	2.64	1.06	4.07	3.35	1.76
Time of day						
Morning (6 a.m.–noon)	0.52%	3.61%	0.51%	3.89%	1.52%	6.52%
Afternoon (noon–6 p.m.)	0.55	3.56	0.42	4.50	2.02	5.74
Evening (6 p.m.–midnight)	1.15	3.56	0.25	4.36	4.03	5.83
Overnight (midnight–6 a.m.)	0.14	2.02	0.15	2.79	0.23	2.90
Unknown	1.10	2.76	0.90	3.77	3.14	4.16
Occurred in area under video surveillance						
Yes	1.10%	3.90%	0.35%	4.52%	3.30%	6.06%
No	1.06	3.91	0.71	4.64	3.09	5.24
Unknown	0.60	1.98	0.70	1.01	1.04	4.49
Reported by—						
Victim	1.22%	3.45%	0.32%	4.89%	1.90%	4.20%
Another inmate (nonvictim)	0.54	3.25	0.65	4.41	0.41	4.51
Correctional officer/front-line staff	0.76	3.12	0.85	3.45	0.89	5.64
Other facility staff	0.50	1.78	0.62	2.88	0.51	1.24
Investigation/monitoring	0.34	1.38	0.33	2.33	0.33	0.28
Other	0.44	0.92	0.57	1.39	0.23	1.12

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Survey of Sexual Victimization, 2016–18.

APPENDIX TABLE 11**Standard errors for table 10: Demographic characteristics of victims in substantiated incidents of staff-on-inmate sexual victimization, by type of victimization, 2016–18**

Demographic characteristic	Staff-on-inmate total	Staff sexual misconduct	Staff sexual harassment
Number of victims	52	38	40
Sex/gender identity			
Male	1.10%	1.24%	2.21%
Female	1.10	1.24	2.19
Transgender/intersex	0.13	0.08	0.41
Age			
24 or younger	1.06%	1.04%	2.50%
25–29	0.95	1.04	1.95
30–34	1.03	1.10	2.22
35–39	0.86	0.81	2.10
40–44	0.47	0.65	0.44
45 or older	0.65	0.48	1.77
Race/ethnicity			
White	1.16%	1.19%	2.62%
Black	1.10	1.07	2.64
Hispanic	0.48	0.62	0.62
Other	0.10	0.11	0.24

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Survey of Sexual Victimization, 2016–18.

APPENDIX TABLE 12**Standard errors for table 11: Demographic characteristics of perpetrators in substantiated incidents of staff-on-inmate sexual victimization, by type of victimization, 2016–18**

Demographic characteristic	Staff-on-inmate total	Staff sexual misconduct	Staff sexual harassment
Number of perpetrators	25	26	34
Sex			
Male	1.28%	1.37%	2.40%
Female	1.28	1.37	2.40
Age			
24 or younger	1.07%	0.97%	2.88%
25–29	0.75	1.02	0.81
30–34	1.20	0.83	3.35
35–39	0.61	0.67	1.28
40–44	0.55	0.58	1.19
45 or older	1.15	1.25	2.64
Race/ethnicity			
White	1.28%	1.19%	3.05%
Black	1.09	0.94	2.86
Hispanic	0.67	0.61	1.69
Other	0.37	0.49	0.51

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Survey of Sexual Victimization, 2016–18.

APPENDIX TABLE 13**Standard errors for table 12: Employment characteristics of perpetrators in substantiated incidents of staff-on-inmate sexual victimization, by type of victimization, 2016–18**

Employment characteristic	Staff-on-inmate total	Staff sexual misconduct	Staff sexual harassment
Number of incidents	50	37	39
Type of employee			
Full-time	0.97%	1.06%	2.06%
Contractor	0.89	0.91	2.03
Other	0.31	0.44	0.08
Position description			
Administrative/clerical staff	0.04%	0.05%	0.03%
Correctional officer/supervision staff	1.12	1.17	2.42
Maintenance/other facility support staff	0.85	0.98	1.72
Medical/health care staff	0.42	0.55	0.61
Program staff	0.13	0.18	0.14
Other staff	0.60	0.56	1.51
Tenure at facility			
Less than 6 months	0.94%	1.00%	2.03%
6 months–1 year	1.24	1.18	3.04
1–5 years	1.26	1.15	3.13
5–10 years	0.59	0.79	0.76
More than 10 years	0.65	0.69	1.62

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Survey of Sexual Victimization, 2016–18.

APPENDIX TABLE 14

Standard errors for table 13: Outcomes for victims and perpetrators in substantiated incidents of staff-on-inmate sexual victimization, by type of victimization, 2016–18

Outcome of incident	Staff-on-inmate total	Staff sexual misconduct	Staff sexual harassment
Number of incidents	50	37	39
Victim injured			
No	0.02%	0.02%	0.04%
Yes	0.02	0.02	0.04
Major injury	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other injury	0.02	0.02	0.04
Medical treatment/follow-up for victim			
Given medical examination	0.58%	0.75%	0.64%
Administered rape kit	0.07	0.09	0.00
Tested for HIV/AIDS	0.39	0.56	0.02
Tested for other STDs	0.33	0.47	0.02
Provided counseling/mental health treatment	1.13	1.02	2.87
Was offered but declined testing/treatment, or had already been released/discharged	1.32	1.42	2.99
No medical treatment offered/provided	1.23	1.25	2.88
Housing/custody change for victim			
Separated from perpetrator	1.30%	1.32%	3.07%
Placed in administrative segregation	0.63	0.75	1.14
Transferred to another housing unit or given a single cell/room	0.42	0.60	0.08
Confined to own cell/room	0.38	0.51	0.38
Transferred to another facility	0.97	1.08	1.94
Placed in medical unit	0.09	0.10	0.22
Other	0.73	0.89	1.25
None of the above	1.22	0.98	3.11
Sanction for perpetrator			
Sent to training/counseling	0.72%	0.52%	2.02%
Reprimanded/disciplined	1.27	0.68	3.13
Demoted/given diminished responsibilities/suspended	0.76	0.23	2.37
Transferred to another facility/unit	0.13	0.17	0.32
Legal action	1.14	1.26	1.92
Arrested	1.13	1.27	1.92
Referred for prosecution/indicted	0.93	1.16	1.05
Convicted/pled guilty/sentenced/fined	0.90	1.05	1.68
Discharged/terminated/contract not renewed	1.23	1.31	2.59
Perpetrator resigned before investigation completed	0.96	0.99	2.42
Perpetrator resigned after investigation completed	0.81	0.80	1.92
Other	0.37	0.12	1.19

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Survey of Sexual Victimization, 2016–18.

APPENDIX TABLE 15
Standard errors for table 14: Outcomes for victims and perpetrators in substantiated incidents of staff-on-inmate sexual victimization, by type of victimization and facility, 2016–18

Outcome of incident	Staff-on-inmate total		Staff sexual misconduct		Staff sexual harassment	
	Prisons	Jails	Prisons	Jails	Prisons	Jails
Number of incidents	30	40	17	33	27	28
Victim injured						
No	0.01%	0.07%	0.01%	0.08%	0.00%	0.14%
Yes	0.01	0.07	0.01	0.08	0.00	0.14
Major injury	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other injury	0.00	0.07	0.00	0.08	0.00	0.12
Medical treatment/follow-up for victim						
Given medical examination	0.65%	0.71%	0.68%	1.01%	0.79%	1.05%
Administered rape kit	0.03	0.22	0.03	0.39	0.00	0.00
Tested for HIV/AIDS	0.04	1.43	0.04	2.42	0.03	0.00
Tested for other STDs	0.44	0.33	0.59	0.56	0.03	0.00
Provided counseling/mental health treatment	0.82	3.54	0.73	3.22	2.19	6.53
Was offered but declined testing/treatment, or had already been released/discharged	1.15	3.74	1.00	4.98	3.46	5.63
No medical treatment offered/provided	1.09	3.48	0.67	4.87	3.20	5.07
Housing/custody change for victim						
Separated from perpetrator	1.08%	3.81%	0.88%	4.90%	3.21%	6.01%
Placed in administrative segregation	0.38	2.09	0.39	2.91	0.53	2.98
Transferred to another housing unit or given a single cell/room	0.04	1.52	0.04	2.57	0.09	0.14
Confined to own cell/room	0.05	1.36	0.04	2.21	0.15	1.00
Transferred to another facility	0.29	3.41	0.31	4.51	0.27	5.10
Placed in medical unit	0.02	0.35	0.01	0.43	0.06	0.59
Other	0.71	1.93	0.90	2.52	0.70	3.12
None of the above	1.13	3.30	0.46	3.97	3.55	5.67
Sanction for perpetrator						
Sent to training/counseling	0.10%	2.58%	0.10%	2.22%	0.62%	5.19%
Reprimanded/disciplined	1.18	3.45	0.11	2.93	3.40	6.24
Demoted/given diminished responsibilities/suspended	0.12	2.71	0.12	0.89	0.35	6.05
Transferred to another facility/unit	0.15	0.25	0.18	0.42	0.51	0.17
Legal action	0.56	3.74	0.60	4.64	0.17	5.05
Arrested	0.54	3.75	0.58	4.79	0.17	5.05
Referred for prosecution/indicted	0.95	3.16	0.49	4.72	0.08	2.78
Convicted/pled guilty/sentenced/fined	0.09	3.18	0.10	4.32	0.00	4.44
Discharged/terminated/contract not renewed	0.95	3.69	0.92	4.81	1.22	6.16
Perpetrator resigned before investigation completed	1.01	1.86	0.82	2.44	3.32	2.93
Perpetrator resigned after investigation completed	0.11	2.90	0.09	3.41	0.29	5.05
Other	0.17	1.29	0.10	0.03	0.61	3.03

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Survey of Sexual Victimization, 2016–18.

APPENDIX TABLE 16**Standard errors for table 15: Selected characteristics of substantiated incidents of inmate-on-inmate sexual harassment, by type of facility, 2016–18**

Incident characteristic	All facilities	Prisons	Jails
Number of incidents	86	72	47
Location			
Victim's cell/room	1.61%	3.04%	1.17%
Perpetrator's cell/room	0.43	0.21	0.80
Dormitory	0.96	1.03	1.54
Common area	1.22	1.55	1.77
Program/instructional/recreation area	0.46	0.71	0.73
Other area	0.57	0.17	1.06
Time of day			
Morning (6 a.m.–noon)	0.88%	1.08%	1.41%
Afternoon (noon–6 p.m.)	1.02	1.32	1.56
Evening (6 p.m.–midnight)	1.07	1.42	1.56
Overnight (midnight–6 a.m.)	0.37	0.17	0.69
Unknown	1.63	2.74	1.59
Occurred in area under video surveillance			
Yes	1.33%	1.63%	1.67%
No	1.45	2.18	1.61
Unknown	0.40	0.70	0.60
Reported by—			
Victim	1.78%	3.40%	1.48%
Another inmate (nonvictim)	1.87	3.67	1.22
Correctional officer/front-line staff	0.75	0.32	1.38
Other facility staff	0.38	0.11	0.73
Investigation/monitoring	0.41	0.71	0.46
Other	0.21	0.04	0.40

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Survey of Sexual Victimization, 2016–18.

APPENDIX TABLE 17**Standard errors for table 16: Demographic characteristics of victims and perpetrators in substantiated incidents of inmate-on-inmate sexual harassment, 2016–18**

Demographic characteristic	Victims	Perpetrators
Number of victims	110	81
Sex/gender identity		
Male	1.19%	0.96%
Female	1.17	0.96
Transgender/intersex	0.21	0.08
Age		
24 or younger	0.98%	0.92%
25–29	1.59	1.00
30–34	0.94	0.65
35–39	0.61	1.68
40–44	0.53	0.48
45 or older	1.57	0.76
Race/ethnicity		
White	1.13%	1.33%
Black	0.62	1.00
Hispanic	0.70	0.72
Other	0.49	0.47

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Survey of Sexual Victimization, 2016–18.

APPENDIX TABLE 18**Standard errors for table 17: Outcomes for victims and perpetrators in substantiated incidents of inmate-on-inmate sexual harassment, by type of facility, 2016–18**

Outcome of incident	All facilities	Prisons	Jails
Number of incidents	86	72	47
Victim injured			
No	0.03%	0.06%	0.02%
Yes	0.03	0.06	0.02
Major injury	0.00	0.01	0.00
Other injury	0.02	0.06	0.02
Medical treatment/follow-up for victim			
Given medical examination	0.42%	0.78%	0.58%
Administered rape kit	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tested for HIV/AIDS	0.00	0.01	0.00
Tested for other STDs	0.00	0.01	0.01
Provided counseling/mental health treatment	1.14	1.98	1.54
Was offered but declined testing/treatment, or had already been released/discharged	0.69	0.44	1.23
No medical treatment offered/provided	1.40	2.43	1.71
Housing/custody change for victim			
Separated from perpetrator	1.66%	2.97%	1.64%
Placed in administrative segregation	0.46	0.38	0.83
Transferred to another housing unit or given a single cell/room	0.83	0.68	1.42
Confined to own cell/room	0.33	0.09	0.63
Transferred to another facility	0.05	0.06	0.08
Placed in medical unit	0.12	0.07	0.23
Other	0.65	0.57	1.13
None of the above	1.80	3.41	1.16
Custody change/sanction for perpetrator			
Placed in solitary/disciplinary custody	1.37%	2.22%	1.74%
Transferred to another cell/unit or separated from victim	1.24	1.69	1.73
Placed in higher custody level within same facility	0.80	0.56	1.39
Confined to own cell/room	0.81	0.69	1.36
Transferred to another facility	0.54	0.70	0.88
Lost privileges	1.31	2.34	1.68
Lost good time/acquired bad time	0.73	1.14	0.93
Referred for counseling/treatment	0.65	0.72	1.07
Legal action	0.53	0.34	0.98
Arrested	0.21	0.31	0.28
Referred for prosecution/indicted	0.50	0.09	0.95
Convicted/sentenced/fined	0.04	0.01	0.07
Other	0.69	1.18	0.76
None of the above	0.04	0.07	0.05

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Survey of Sexual Victimization, 2016–18.



The Bureau of Justice Statistics of the U.S. Department of Justice is the principal federal agency responsible for measuring crime, criminal victimization, criminal offenders, victims of crime, correlates of crime, and the operation of criminal and civil justice systems at the federal, state, tribal, and local levels. BJS collects, analyzes, and disseminates reliable and valid statistics on crime and justice systems in the United States, supports improvements to state and local criminal justice information systems, and participates with national and international organizations to develop and recommend national standards for justice statistics. Alexis R. Piquero, PhD, is the director.

This report was written by Emily D. Buehler. Laura Maruschak and Emily D. Buehler were the project managers for the Survey of Sexual Victimization, 2016–18. Greta Clark, U.S. Census Bureau, carried out data collection and processing, under the supervision of Naomi Blackman. Jessica Klein assisted in the data collection. Andreana Able, Andre Williams, and Chengee White drew the facility samples and provided sampling weights. Erica Grasmick, Danielle Kaeble, Stephanie Mueller, Todd Minton, and E. Ann Carson verified the report.

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January 2023, NCJ 304834



NCJ 304834

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