

# 2016 Crime Victims' Institute Dashboard

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## What is the 2016 Texas Dashboard?

The 2016 Texas Dashboard is a broad overview of key indicators of victimization in Texas. The Dashboard looks at reported incidents, service utilization, offender accountability, and victimization survey results in order to monitor trends in these key indicators to inform efforts to strengthen intervention policies and practices, to implement prevention strategies, and to revise existing policies and programs to adopt practices better suited to ending victimization and assisting the victims and survivors.

## Join Us!

We hope you will join us in our efforts to bring attention to these types of victimizations and those individuals affected by them in order to increase victim safety and hold offenders accountable for their actions. Call your local victim service provider to learn about your community's efforts in this area or visit the Crime Victims' Institute website at [www.crimevictimsinstitute.org](http://www.crimevictimsinstitute.org) to find ways to get involved.

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*Crime Victims' Institute is affiliated with the Criminal Justice Center  
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## *Indicators of Victimization in Texas*

Reports of crime, utilization of services, and reports to law enforcement are much lower than actual incident rates due to underreporting, especially when considering highly personal victimization experiences like intimate, family, and sexual violence. Victims may be reluctant to report their experiences for a variety of reasons, including fear of reprisal, financial dependence on the offender, or fear of the criminal justice system response. It is important to remember that these numbers reflect only those incidents reported, while a vast amount of victimization goes unrecognized.

Key Population Indicators for Texas	Source	Starting Data (2010)	Current Data (2015)	Percent Change
<b>Reports of Harm (Child and Youth)</b>				
1. Confirmed allegations of child physical abuse	DFPS	13,616	11,514	-15.4%
2. Confirmed allegations of child sexual abuse	DFPS	5,992	5,721	-4.5%
3. Confirmed rate of child abuse/neglect per 1,000 children	DFPS	10.2	9.1	-10.8%
4. Child abuse/neglect related fatalities rate per 100,000 children	DFPS	3.3	2.3	-30.3%
5. Completed investigations where family violence was indicated in risk assessment	DFPS	54,842	57,767	5.3%
<b>Adult and Elder Victimization</b>				
6. Number of women who have lost their lives to domestic violence	TCFV	142	158	11.3%
7. Validated investigations of abuse of elders and vulnerable adults	DFPS	56,053	43,759	-21.9%
8. Maltreatment rate per 1,000 adults	DFPS	13.2	8.9	-32.6%
<b>Reports to Law Enforcement</b>				
9. Forcible rape incidents*	TXDPS	7,626	12,208	60.1%
10. Rate of forcible rape reported to law enforcement per 100,000*	TXDPS	30.3	44.4	46.5%
11. Sexual assault incidents	TXDPS	19,007	18,636	-2.0%
12. Number of family violence incidents	TXDPS	193,505	194,872	0.7%
13. Number of intimate partner homicides reported to law enforcement	TXDPS	162	195	20.4%
14. Number of human trafficking offenses reported to law enforcement	TXDPS	N/A	285	---
15. Number of campus rape incidents reported to law enforcement*	TXDPS	39	78	50.0%
16. Number of hate crime incidents reported to law enforcement	TXDPS	168	193	13.0%
<b>Utilization of Services</b>				
17. Adults and children sheltered	TCFV	26,907	24,391	-9.4%
18. Hotline calls answered	TCFV	205,793	183,294	-10.9%
19. Number of victims notified (VINE/Call-out Feature)	TDCJ	496	1,796	262.1%
20. Number of mediations completed	TDCJ	43	54	25.6%
<b>Offender Accountability</b>				
21. Forcible rape clearance rate	TXDPS	44.0	38.1	-13.4%
22. Percent sexual assault of adult cases with conviction	TJB	39.5	34.4	-12.9%
23. Percent sexual assault of child cases with conviction	TJB	44.0	36.5	-17.0%
24. Percent family violence assault cases with conviction	TJB	N/A	41.1	---

**N/A = Not Available**

# Trends and National Comparisons

CVI's 2016 Dashboard provides current data for 2015 in comparison to the same indicators in 2010. Percent change is the increase or decrease in a particular indicator relative to the start date (see formula below). Percent change is not an absolute difference in percent and may or may not be statistically significant since some change randomly occurs from year to year. For some indicators, national comparisons can also be made (see formula).

$$\left[ \frac{(\text{Current TX Data} - \text{Starting TX Data})}{\text{Starting TX Data}} \right] \times 100$$

$$\left[ \frac{(\text{Current TX Data} - \text{Current US Data})}{\text{Current US Data}} \right] \times 100$$

## Reports of Harm (Child and Youth)

- The number of incidents of child physical and sexual abuse and the confirmed rate of child abuse and neglect declined from 2010 to 2015. Rates of child abuse/neglect in the U.S. have remained fairly stable since 2010, but Texas rates have declined by 10.8% over the same time period (from 10.2 in 2010 to 9.1 in 2015).
- The rate of child abuse/neglect related fatalities also declined by 30.3% from 2010 to 2015.
- Risk assessment findings of family violence in completed investigations, however, increased over this time period.

## Adult and Elder Victimization

- Validated investigations of abuse of elders and vulnerable adults, as well as the adult maltreatment rate, declined were lower in 2015 as compared to 2010.
- The number of women who lost their lives to domestic violence was 11.3% higher in 2015 compared to 2010.

## Reports to Law Enforcement

- The number and rate of rape incidents and the number of college campus rapes reported were considerably higher in 2015 as compared to 2010. It is important to note that the definition of rape was expanded in 2014, so a portion of the increase is a result of using the expanded definition. The percent change here does not reflect a direct comparison.
- In 2015, the rate of rape incidents reported to police in Texas was 44.4 per 100,000, compared to 39.3 per 100,000 inhabitants in the U.S. The Texas rate was 13.0% higher than the U.S. rate.
- The number of sexual assault incidents reported to law enforcement was slightly lower in 2015, while the number of family violence incidents was slightly higher.
- The number of intimate partner homicide incidents reported to police in Texas was 20.4% higher in 2015 compared to 2010.
- The number of reported hate crime incidents increased 13.0% from 2010 to 2015.
- There were 285 human trafficking incidents reported to law enforcement in 2015. This is the first time Texas DPS has reported this indicator, so trends are not yet available.

## Utilization of Services

- The number of adults and children sheltered and the number of hotline calls answered decreased by about 10% from 2010 to 2015. While it may be that this reflects fewer individuals who need these services, we must also consider whether victims/survivors are more reluctant to access these services. It is difficult to pinpoint the exact reason for this decline.
- The number of victims receiving notification and participating in victim-offender mediation increased from 2010 to 2015.

## Offender Accountability

- All indicators of offender accountability, including the forcible rape clearance rate and the percent of cases with a conviction, declined from 2010 to 2015.

Note: Few of the data sources on the Texas Dashboard are available nationally or in other states for comparison purposes. When they are available, data is rarely directly comparable. In particular, different states may have different definitions for domestic violence and sexual assault, different reporting requirements for child and elder abuse, and different crime classifications. Additionally, comparing incident counts across states is not advised due to differences in population size.

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