

2018 Crime Victims' Institute Dashboard

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What is the 2018 Texas Dashboard?

The 2018 Texas Dashboard provides a broad collection of key indicators of victimization in Texas during the past year. The Dashboard includes reported victimization incidents, the scope of service utilization from various government and non-government resource providers, offender accountability, and results from victimization surveys. The presentation of these statistics allows for monitoring of trends, strengthens intervention policies and practices, and informs implementation of prevention tactics. Additionally, the Dashboard assists with amending existing programs and policies, allowing for the adoption of practices that are better suited to reduce and ultimately end victimization and assist victims and survivors.



Crime Victims' Institute is affiliated with the Criminal Justice Center
Sam Houston State University
A Member of the Texas State University System



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Indicators of Victimization in Texas

Official reports of crime, utilization of services, and reports to law enforcement are lower than actual incidents rates, particularly when considering highly personal victimization experiences, such as intimate, family, and sexual violence. Victims may be apprehensive about reporting their experiences for numerous reasons, such as fear of reprisal, financial dependence on the offender, or fear related to the criminal justice process. It is important to keep in mind that the numbers below reflect only those incidents reported to formal agencies, and that a substantial amount of victimization goes unrecognized.

Key Population Indicators for Texas	Source	Starting Data (2010)	Previous Year (2016)	Current Data (2017)	Percent Change
Reports of Harm (Child and Youth)					
Confirmed allegations of child physical abuse	DFPS	13,616	8,249	8,858	7.4%
Confirmed allegations of child sexual abuse	DFPS	5,992	5,640	6,156	9.1%
Confirmed rate of child abuse/neglect per 1,000 children	DFPS	10.2	5.6	8.5	51.7%
Child abuse/neglect-related fatalities rate per 100,000 children	DFPS	3.3	3.0	2.3	-23.3%
Completed investigations where family violence was indicated in risk assessment	DFPS	54,842	6,058	21,369	71.7%
Adult and Elder Victimization					
Intimate partner homicides	TCFV	142	146	136	-6.8%
Validated investigations of abuse of elders and vulnerable adults	DFPS	56,053	51,608	65,449	26.8%
Maltreatment rate per 1,000 adults	DFPS	13.2	10.1	6.9	-31.7%
Reports to Law Enforcement					
Forcible rape incidents	TXDPS	7,626	13,291	14,332	7.8%
Rate of forcible rape reported to law enforcement per 100,000	TXDPS	30.3	47.8	50.6	5.9%
Sexual assault incidents	TXDPS	19,007	18,349	18,112	-1.3%
Family violence incidents	TXDPS	193,505	196,564	195,315	-0.6%
Number of intimate partner homicides reported to law enforcement	TXDPS	162	155	116	-25.2%
Number of human trafficking offenses reported to law enforcement	TXDPS	N/A	241	345	43.2%
Number of campus rape incidents reported to law enforcement	TXDPS	39	106	139	31.1%
Number of hate crime incidents reported to law enforcement	TXDPS	168	178	190	6.7%
Utilization of Services					
Adults and children sheltered	TCFV	26,907	19,854	3,743 ¹	N/A
Hotline calls answered	TCFV	205,793	172,573	16,860 ¹	N/A
Number of victims notified (VINE/Call-out Feature)	TDCJ	496	1,879	1,809	-3.7%
Number of mediations completed	TDCJ	43	32	31	-3.1%
Offender Accountability					
Forcible rape clearance	TXDPS	44.0	37.0	35.5	-1.5%
Percent of adult sexual assault cases with conviction	TJB	39.5	39.0	25.0	-14.0%
Percent of child sexual assault cases with conviction	TJB	44.0	44.0	30.0	-14.0%
Percent of family violence assault cases with conviction	TJB	N/A	50.0	50.0	0.0%

1: These statistics reflect the average number of adults and children sheltered and the average number of hotline calls on any given day in the state of Texas. N/A= Not Available; DFPS= Department of Family and Protective Services; TCFV= Texas Council on Family Violence; TDCJ= Texas Department of Criminal Justice; TJB= Texas Judicial Branch; TXDPS= Texas Department of Public Safety

Trends and National Comparisons

CVI's 2018 Dashboard provides current data for 2017 for comparison to the same indicators in 2016. Starting or baseline data from 2010 have also been included as a reference. Percent change is a calculation of the increase or decrease in a particular indicator relative to the previous year (2016; see formula below). Percent change is not the 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).

$$\left[\frac{(\text{Current TX Data} - \text{Previous Year's TX Data})}{\text{Previous Year's TX Data}} \right] \times 100$$

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

Reports of Harm (Child and Youth)

- The number of reported child physical and sexual abuse incidents and the confirmed rate of child abuse and neglect has increased from 2016 to 2017. Rates of child abuse/neglect in the U.S. have remained fairly stable since 2010, but Texas rates have declined by 16.8% over the same time period (from 10.2 in 2010 to 8.5 in 2017). There was a 51.7% increase in rates of child abuse/neglect from 2017 to 2017 in Texas.
- The rate of child abuse/neglect-related fatalities has decreased by 23.3% from 2016 to 2017.

Adult and Elder Victimization

- Validated investigations of abuse of elders increased 26.8% from 2016 to 2017 and the adult maltreatment rate per 1,000 adults decreased by 31.7% during the same time frame.
- The number of female victims of intimate partner homicide declined by 6.8% from 2016 to 2017.

Reports to Law Enforcement

- The number of rape incidents and the number of college campus rapes reported were higher in 2017 as compared to 2016. The number of forcible rape incidents reported to law enforcement increased 7.8% and the number of campus rape incidents reported to law enforcement increased 31.1%. It is important to note that the definition of rape was expanded in 2014, so a portion of this increase may be the result of differences in using a more inclusive definition of rape. The percent change here does not reflect a direct comparison.
- In 2017, the rate of forcible rape incidents reported to police in Texas was 47.8 per 100,000, compared to 50.6 per 100,000 inhabitants in Texas in 2016—a 5.9% increase.
- The number of sexual assault and family violence incidents reported to law enforcement were slightly lower in 2017.
- The number of intimate partner homicide incidents reported to police in Texas was 25.2% lower in 2017 compared to 2016.
- The number of reported hate crime incidents increased 6.7% from 2016 to 2017.
- There were 345 human trafficking incidents reported to law enforcement in 2017—a 42.3% increase from 2016. This is the third year the Texas Department of Public Safety has reported this indicator, so long-term annual trends are still developing.

Utilization of Services

- It is important to note that data efforts used to comprise the statistics for the reported number of adults and children sheltered, as well as for the number of hotline calls answered differed between 2016 and 2017. The new statistics reflect the average number of adults and children sheltered and the average number of hotline calls answered on any given day in Texas. There were 3,743 adults and children sheltered and 16,860 hotline calls answered on any given day in 2017. The number of victims notified about victim-offender mediation and the number of completed mediations decreased from 2016 to 2017.

Offender Accountability

- All indicators of offender accountability either decreased or remained the same from 2016 to 2017.

Note: Few of the data sources on the CVI 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 family violence, maltreatment, domestic violence, rape, 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.

Join Us!

We hope you will join us in our efforts to raise awareness surrounding victimization incidents and for those individuals impacted by these crimes. Doing so will ultimately increase victim safety and offender accountability. Call your local victim services provider to learn more about your community's endeavors, or visit the Crime Victims' Institute's website at www.crimevictimsinstitute.org to find ways to get involved.

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