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2023 Crime Victims' Institute Dashboard



What is the 2023 Texas Dashboard?

The 2023 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 trends, strengthens intervention policies and practices, and informs the implementation of prevention tactics. Additionally, the Dashboard assists with amending existing programs and policies, allowing for adopting practices better suited to reduce and ultimately end victimization and assist victims and survivors.

INDICATORS OF VICTIMIZATION IN TEXAS

Official reports of crime, utilization of services, and reports to law enforcement are lower than actual incident 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 remember 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 (2022)	Current Data (2023)	Percent Change
Reports of Harm (Child and Youth)					
Confirmed allegations of child physical abuse	DFPS	13,616	7,149	6,499	-9.09%
Confirmed allegations of child sexual abuse	DFPS	5,992	7,645	7,323	-4.21%
Confirmed child abuse/neglect-related fatalities	DFPS	227	199	182	-8.54%
Completed investigations where family violence was indicated in risk assessment	DFPS	54,841	12,893	11,080	-14.06%
Adult and Elder Victimization					
Intimate partner homicides involving female victims	TCFV	142	169	179	5.92%
Validated investigations of abuse of elders and vulnerable adults	DFPS	56,053	48,170	48,182	0.02%
Maltreatment rate per 1,000 adults	DFPS	3.1	2.8	2.6	-7.14%
Reports to Law Enforcement					
Forcible rape incidents	TXDPS	7,626	14,671	14,639	-0.22%
Sexual assault incidents	TXDPS	19,007	18,429	18,645	1.17%
Family violence incidents	TXDPS	193,505	231,207	254,339	10%
Number of human trafficking offenses reported to law enforcement	TXDPS	N/A	549	586	6.74%
Number of hate crime incidents reported to law enforcement	TXDPS	168	508	562	10.63%
Utilization of Services					
Adults and children sheltered[1]	TCFV	26,907	1,426,785	1,627,900	14.10%
Hotline calls answered[1]	TCFV	205,793	570,130	585,095	2.62%
Offender Accountability					
Forcible rape clearance	TXDPS	44.0	18.22	17.67	-3.02%
Percent of adult sexual assault cases with conviction	TJB	39.9	6.48	9.97	53.86%
Percent of child sexual assault cases with conviction	TJB	44.0	7.73	11.78	52.39%
Percent of family violence assault cases with conviction	TJB	N/A	11.52	14.88	29.17%

[1]=Average number of victims on a given day was multiplied by 365 to get an estimate of the annual totals N/A= Not Available; DFPS= Department of Family and Protective Services; TCFV= Texas Council on Family Violence; TJB= Texas Judicial Branch; TXDPS= Texas Department of Public Safety

TRENDS AND NATIONAL COMPARISONS

CVI's 2023 Dashboard provides current data for 2022 for comparison to the same indicators in 2021. 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 (2022 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 confirmed child physical abuse incidents has decreased by 9.09% from 2021 to 2022, while child sexual abuse incidents have decreased by 4.21%.
- The confirmed child abuse/neglect-related fatalities have decreased by 8.54% from 2021 to 2022.

Adult and Elder Victimization

- Validated investigations of abuse of elders slightly increased by 0.02% from 2021 to 2022, and the adult maltreatment rate per 1,000 adults decreased by 7.14% during the same time frame.
- The number of female victims of intimate partner homicide increased by 5.92% from 2021 to 2022.

Reports to Law Enforcement

- The number of forcible rape incidents reported to law enforcement decreased by 0.22%.
- The number of sexual assault incidents reported to law enforcement was 1.17% higher, and family violence incidents reported to law enforcement were 10% higher in 2022.
- The number of reported hate crime incidents increased by 10.63% from 2021 to 2022.
- 549 human trafficking incidents were reported to law enforcement in 2021 and 586 incidents in 2022—a 6.74% increase.

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 have differed since 2016. The new statistics reflect an estimate of the number of adults and children sheltered that year, and the average number of hotline calls answered that year in Texas based on a sample the TCFV collected over a 24-hour period during 2022.
- The average number of hotline calls answered increased by 2.62% from 2021 to 2022.
- Shelter services provided to children and adults increased by 14.10% from 2021 to 2022.

Offender Accountability

- Forcible rape clearance decreased in 2022, whereas the percent of family violence assault cases with conviction, sexual assault cases with convictions, and child sexual assault cases with conviction significantly increased.

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. For more information about the Crime Victims' Institute, visit us at www.crimevictimsinstitute.org or follow us on X or Instagram @cvi_shsu.

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*Crime Victims' Institute is affiliated with the Criminal Justice Center
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