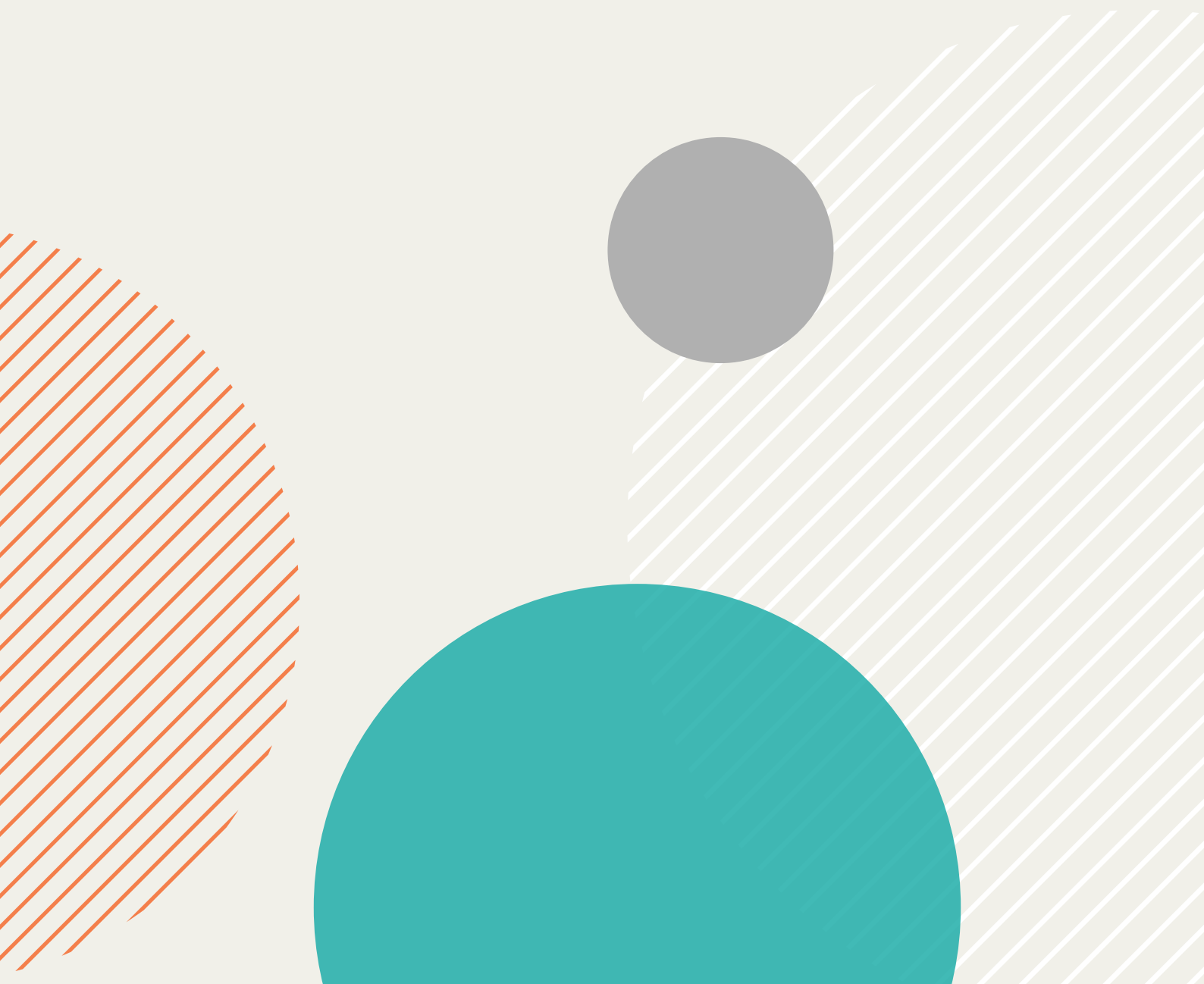


DISPROPORTIONALITIES REPORT (FY22)

 **SVPP**EVALUATION





JANUARY 2022

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TEXAS A&M HEALTH
Center for Community
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FY22 DISPROPORTIONALITIES REPORT

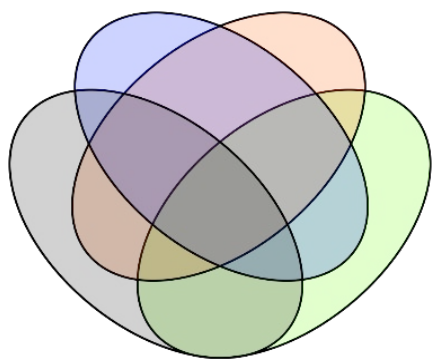
INTRODUCTION

This report was prepared after compiling and critically analyzing existing literature to identify individuals/groups disproportionately affected by sexual violence. Beginning with seven risk and protective factors identified by content experts of the Texas Rape Prevention and Education (RPE) program, Sexual Violence Prevention Program (SVPP) evaluation team members examined sexual violence at the community, organizational/institutional, and policy levels. Analyses revealed 9 risk factors, 4 protective factors and 24 variables associated with the perpetration of sexual violence.

FINDINGS

Presentation of findings are as follows: First by risk and protective factors, then by specific variables associated with sexual violence, and finally compares national and state-level data. Texas RPE risk and protective factors are presented first and are listed with an asterisk (*). State-level data are marked by an image of Texas.

It is important to note the results are organized parsimoniously and do *not* account for intersections of factors that contribute to these results. Intersectionality of identities is a term developed and utilized by Kimberle Crenshaw (1990, 2013) as part of her research on domestic violence against immigrant women of color and its impact on victimization. Using a fictitious example, risk of being victimized may be



different for a male vs female child, and even among female children the risk may be further enhanced by factors such as poverty, race/ethnicity (i.e., intersectionality). For the purposes of this report, the findings are organized using variables identified as primary by the source of the data. However, where clear evidence of intersectionality exists, it will be noted using *IntX*.

Figure 1. Intersectionality Symbol

RISK FACTORS

General aggression/acceptance of violence*

Variable: Sexual Identity and Orientation

- High prevalence of physical and sexual violence (SV) is experienced by transgender people, motivated by others' perceptions of sexual orientation and gender identity (Blondeel, 2018).
- 76.4% of rural students reported victimization based on sexual orientation— compared to 68.8% of urban and 66.1% of suburban students (Kosciw et al., 2020). *IntX*
- ✦ Texas-specific data are not available, but needed to fully understand this variable's impact on sexual violence in this state. *The lack of Texas-specific data is a gap and a problem.*

Social norms that support sexual violence*

Variable: Biological Sex

Background and Context: Overall, while both sexes experience sexual violence, the data below reflect that women are more likely to experience sexual violence than men.

- 91% of the victims of rape and sexual assault are female, and 9% are male (Rennison, 2002).
- One in 4 women and about 1 in 26 men have experienced completed or attempted rape, about 1 in 9 men were made to penetrate someone during his lifetime (CDC 2021; Basile et al., 2022)
- One in five females and one in 71 males will be raped in their lifetime (Black et al., 2011)
- Nationwide, 81% of women and 43% of men experienced some form of sexual harassment and/or assault in their lifetime (Stop Street Harassment, 2018)
- ✦ Females ages 16-19 are 4 times more likely than the general population to be victims of rape, attempted rape, or sexual assault (Department of Justice [DoJ], 1997)
- ✦ Women experience sexual assault at higher rates than men for every age group surveyed in the Texas Statewide Sexual Assault Prevalence Study (Busch-Armendariz, 2015)
- ✦ 93.7% of women report their perpetrators were male; a significant minority of women (9%) report being victimized by female offenders (Busch-Armendariz, 2015)
- ✦ Texas-specific data are not available, but needed to fully understand this variable's impact on sexual violence in this state. *The lack of Texas-specific data is a gap and a problem.*

General tolerance of sexual violence*

Variable: Risky Behaviors - Sex Work

- Sex workers experience extremely high levels of SV (Deering et al., 2014)
- Globally, research-based estimates yield sex workers have a 45% to 75% chance of experiencing sexual violence on the job (Deering et al., 2014)

- There are no comprehensive, up-to-date statistics on how many sex workers in the U.S. have experienced sexual violence.
- ✦ 38% of all calls to the National Trafficking Resource Center in 2008 originated from Texas (Center for Public Policy Studies, 2013).¹
- ✦ Updated Texas-specific data are needed to fully understand this variable's impact on sexual violence in the state. The last report was released in 2008. *The lack of contemporary Texas-specific data is a gap and a problem.*

Abuse of power over others

Variable: Age

- Risk for rape and sexual assault is highest for individuals 12-34 years of age (DoJ, 1997).
- Most (83.4%) female victims of completed rape experienced their first rape before the age of 25; 49% experienced their first completed rape before the age of 18 years (Basile et al., 2022; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [CDC], 2021). *IntX*
- Most male victims (86.1%; ~ 3.8 million males) of completed or attempted rape reported that their first experience occurred prior to age 25 (Basile et al., 2022; CDC, 2021).
- Individuals aged 65 years and older are 92% less likely than 12–24-year-olds to be a victim of rape or sexual assault, and 83% less likely than 25–49-year-olds (DoJ, 2014a)
- For men, lifetime IPV prevalence ranged from 5.6% among those over 65 to 21.4% among those aged 25–34 years (Breiding, Black, & Ryan, 2008).
- ✦ Women are more likely to experience sexual assault when they are 18 or older (26.1%), and men when they are ages 14 to 17 (10.6%) (Busch-Armendariz et al., 2015).
- ✦ Texas-specific data are very limited. Thus, more is needed to fully understand this variable's impact on sexual violence in this state. *The lack of Texas-specific data is a gap and a problem.*

Variable: Disabilities

- Persons with intellectual disabilities experience some of the highest rates of sexual assault in the United States (Shapiro, 2018)
 - People with intellectual disabilities are 7x more likely to experience rape or sexual assault compared to people without such disabilities.
 - Women with intellectual disabilities are victimized even higher; roughly 12x the rate.
- ✦ Texas-specific data are not available but needed to fully understand this variable's impact on sexual violence in this state. *The lack of Texas-specific data is a gap and a problem.*

¹ In 2008, Texas' population of 24.31 million is 8% of the total US population of 304.1 million (www.census.gov).

Variable: Race

- Racial and ethnic minority groups experience a high burden of sexual violence. (Basile 2016; Breiding et al., 2014; Kilpatrick et al., 2007; Molitor et al., 2000; Smith et al., 2017).
- Multiracial and American Indian/Alaska Native women experience higher burden of SV than other races (Black et al., 2011; CDC, 2021; Urban Indian Health Institute, 2018).
 - 4 in 5 American Indian and Alaska Native women (84.3%) experienced violence in their lifetime. This includes 56.1% who experienced sexual violence (Black et al., 2011).
 - 4 in 5 American Indian and Alaska Native men (81.6%) have experienced violence in their lifetime, including 27.5% who experienced sexual violence (Black et al., 2011).
- American Indians are twice as likely to experience a rape/sexual assault compared to all races. (DoJ, 2004). They also have poor access to sexual violence services such as sexual assault examiner (SAE) or sexual assault response teams (SART) (Juraska et al., 2014).
 - Only 30.7% of the 650 Census-designated Native American lands surveyed were within a 60-minute drive to facilities offering sexual assault examiner or sexual assault response team programs. This survey did not include IHS- or tribal-operated facilities (Juraska et al., 2014).
- 41% of sexual assaults against American Indians are committed by a stranger; 34% by an acquaintance; and 25% by an intimate or family member (DoJ, 2004).
- Asian American women (mostly of Chinese, Korean, and Vietnamese heritage), have also reported high rates of sexual violence. This includes 14% who have experienced sexual violence (Hahm et al., 2017; Nguyen et al., 2021). A higher proportion (23-23%) reported IPV (Robertson et al., 2016; Nguyen et al., 2021).
- Black/ African American and multiracial adolescents have a high prevalence of being victimized by physical and sexual violence (Human Rights Campaign, 2019; Basile et al., 2016; Lindquist et al., 2016).
 - 18% forced to perform unwanted sexual acts (Human Rights Campaign, 2019).
 - 13% indicated that they had been sexually attacked or raped (Human Rights Campaign, 2019).
- Black/African American women in urban areas are at higher risk compared to their white counter part. (Basile et al., 2016)
 - 53.7% had experienced rape in their lifetime.
 - 44.8% had experienced sexual coercion in their lifetime.
 - 73.4% indicated their first sexual victimization took place before the age of 18 (Basile et al., 2016). *IntX*.
- ✦ Texas-specific data are not available but needed to fully understand this variable's impact on sexual violence in this state. *The lack of Texas-specific data is a gap and a problem.*

Variable: Hispanic Ethnicity

- Among Latinas, 1 in 7 reported experiencing a completed rape at some point in their lifetime, as compared with 1 in 5 in other racial and ethnic groups. (Partner and Sexual Violence Survey; Black et al., 2011)
- Data from one study (Sexual Assault among Latinas Study [SALAS]) found that out of 1,971 adult Latino women, 11.8% reported experiencing sexual victimization at some point in their lives; Over 13% of ethnically Mexican women and over 6% of ethnically Cuban women reported experiencing sexual victimization (Sabina et al., 2015).
- ✦ Texas-specific data are not available but needed to fully understand this variable's impact on sexual violence in this state. *The lack of Texas-specific data is a gap and a problem.*

Family history of conflict and violence

Variable: Child Maltreatment

- 1 in 4 girls (25%) and 1 in 13 boys (8%) experience child sexual abuse during childhood (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [CDC], 2021)
- 91% of child sexual abuse is perpetrated by someone the child or child's family knows. (CDC, 2021)
- Females exposed to child sexual abuse are at 2-13x increased risk of sexual victimization in adulthood (CDC, 2021)
- Individuals who experienced child sexual abuse are at twice the risk for non-sexual intimate partner violence (CDC, 2021)
- Children who experienced rape or attempted rape during adolescence were 13.7 times more likely to experience rape or attempted rape in their first year of college (National Center for Victims of Crime, n.d)
- Children who do not live with both parents as well as children living in homes marked by parental discord, divorce, or domestic violence, have higher risk of being sexually abused (National Center for Victims of Crime, n.d)

Background and Context of child abuse in the state of Texas

Children's Advocacy Centers of Texas (CACTX) serves as the membership association for the state's 71 local children's advocacy centers (CACs). Texas CACs served 61,891 children in 2020. Of those children:

- ✦ 66% were sexually abused.
- ✦ 98% of child victims knew their alleged perpetrator.
- ✦ 10% (1 out of 10) children will experience sexual abuse before their 18th birthday (Children's Advocacy Centers of Texas, 2021).

- ✦ Additional data are needed to fully understand this variable's impact on sexual violence in Texas. *The lack of Texas-specific data is a gap and a problem.*

Variable: Re-victimization

Background and Context: Victims of rape or sexual assault were more likely to be re-victimized again.

Both Sexual Violence victimization and perpetration start early in life.

- Data from 12,252 survivors of childhood sexual abuse reported that 47.5% of both male and female were re-victimized in their lifetime (Walker et al., 2019).
 - Most male (80%) and female (92%) harassment perpetrators were also sexual harassment victims (Hill and Kears 2011).
 - 36% of female victims of rape (completed or attempted) during youth were also raped as adults, while 45% of male youth victims made to penetrate (completed or attempted) were also made to penetrate as adults (Merrick et al., 2018).
 - National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) found that 15.8% of rape or sexual assault victims experienced two or more rape/sexual assault victimizations between 2005 to 2014, (Oudekerk et al., 2017).
 - Ethnic minorities are more likely to be re-victimized again (Basile et al., 2016; Merrick et al., 2018; Relyea et al., 2016)
 - Compared to white women (39%), Black women (55%) and women of color (52%) were more likely to be re-victimized. (Relyea et al., 2016).
- ✦ Texas-specific data are not available but needed to fully understand this variable's impact on sexual violence in this state. *The lack of Texas-specific data is a gap and a problem.*

Lack of institutional support from police and judicial system

Variable: Criminal Justice System

Background and Context: Prison Demographics

The Bureau of Prisons reported 159,471 Federal inmates in 2018. Of these 57.6% were White; 38.4% were Black; 2.6% were Native American; 1.4% of were Asian and 30.3% were Hispanic (BoP, 2022).

Among federal inmate populations, 7% are female while 93% of inmates are male (BoP, 2022). Rates of sexual victimization in prisons, jails, and other adult correctional facilities have been declining since the introduction of the National Standards to Prevent, Detect, and Respond to Prison Rape programs in 2012, However the numbers are still higher than the general population (Buehler, 2021).

- There was 180% increase in allegations of sexual victimization in 2011-2015 and 14% in 2016-2020 (Buehler, 2021).
- In 2018, 27,826 allegations of sexual victimization in prisons, jails, and other adult correctional facilities were reported (Buehler, 2021).

- 42% of substantiated sexual violence incidents against inmates are perpetrated by jail or prison staff while 58% are perpetrated by other inmates (Buehler, 2021).
- 43% of victims of abusive sexual contact in prisons, jails, and other adult correctional facilities were female (Buehler, 2021) (despite being only 7% of federal prison population). *IntX*
- Sexual victimization is also high among youth in juvenile facilities (DoJ, 2019). *IntX*
 - As juvenile facilities' sizes increased, the percentage of youth reporting victimization also increased. Small facilities (10-25 youth) reported 3.8% victimization, compared to medium-sized facilities (51-200 youth; 6.6% victimization) and large facilities (101+ youth; 7.4% victimization) (Bureau of Justice Statistics [BJS], 2022).
 - The presence of gang activity and not having one's own room were associated with higher reports of sexual victimization (BJS, 2022).
- ✦ The highest rate of SV by coercion (8.7%) was reported by male inmates at the Clements Unit in Texas.
- ✦ The Clements Unit also had the highest percentage of inmates reporting SV involving physical force or threat of force by staff (8.1%).
- ✦ The national average of sexual misconduct in prisons is 2.4%. In Texas, the Clements Unit reports rates 7x the national average (9.5%) while the Coffield Unit reports rates nearly 3x the national average (6.8%). These averages place the Clements Unit and Coffield Unit as the 4th and 6th respectively among prisons with the highest rates of sexual misconduct ***in the nation*** (DoJ, 2013).
- ✦ Additional data are needed to fully understand this variable's impact on sexual violence in Texas. *The lack of additional and more detailed Texas-specific data is a gap and a problem.*

Variable: Under Reporting:

- Nearly 80% of rapes and sexual assaults go unreported (DoJ, 2020).
 - Only 310 out of every 1,000 sexual assaults are reported to police (i.e., more than 2 out of 3 go unreported).
- Reasons for sexual violence crimes not reported to police (data from 2005-2010) (DoJ, 2013).
 - Fear of retaliation (20%)
 - Distrust of police for help (13%)
 - Belief it was a personal matter (13%)
 - Reported to different authorities (8%)
 - Not wanting the perpetrator to be in trouble (7%)
- ✦ Data are needed to fully understand the magnitude of sexual violence incidents in Texas. The majority of sexual violence cases are unreported and hence, the data available may not thoroughly demonstrate the extent of this issue and its associated risk factors. *The lack of Texas-specific data is a gap and a problem.* Efforts should be made to collect all relevant data related to sexual violence in Texas.

Socio-economic status and living conditions.

Variable: Poverty

Background and Context:

Using a 3-year average (2019, 2020, and 2021), 11.2% of people in the United States are living in poverty (U.S. Census Bureau, 2022). In 2020, Black/African American people (19.5%) and Hispanic people (17%) had the highest percentage of people living in poverty compared to White people (10.1%) and Asian people (8.1%) (USA FACTS, 2022).

- There is a significant increase in the risk of physical and sexual assault among those living below the poverty level (Byrne et al., 1999).
- High level of poverty is associated with an increased incidence of rape (Smith & Bennet, 1985).
- Poverty is also associated with a higher level of Intimate Partner Violence (Breiding, Black, & Ryan, 2008; Byrne et al., 1999).
 - Lifetime IPV prevalence among women earning less than \$15,000 was 35.5%, compared to 24.2% for those earning more than \$50,000 (Breiding, Black, & Ryan, 2008).
- Among the poor, risk for experiencing IPV for black women is high with a bi-directional relationship between IPV and poverty for black women (Gillum, 2019). *IntX*
- Re-victimization increased the probability that women with an assault history who were previously living above the poverty level would experience a decline into poverty overtime (Byrne et al., 1999).
- ✚ In 2021, the percentage of the total population of Texans living in Poverty was 14.2% (4.14 million Texans) which is higher than the national average of 11.6% (Economic Research Service, 2022).
- ✚ Additional Texas-specific data are needed to fully understand poverty's impact on sexual violence in Texas. *The lack of Texas-specific data is a gap and a problem.*

Variable: Unemployment

Background and context. At the end of July 2023, the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) reported a decline in the national unemployment rate from 6.7 in 2020, to 3.5 mid-2023 (BLS, 2023). However, the Economic Policy Institute (EPI) reports that some racial and ethnic groups are disproportionately affected by unemployment, emphasizing the need to look deeper at individual groups. Blacks still have the highest unemployment rates (5.7%) followed by Hispanics (4.3%), whites (2.8%) and Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (2.8%).

Texas' unemployment rate of 4.1% is higher than the national, but with a similar pattern by race and/or ethnicity. Blacks have the highest rate (6.2%) followed by Hispanics (4.9%), whites (2.8%) and Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (2.0%) (EPI, 2023; Labor Market Information Report, 2022; Labor Market Review, 2022). Unemployment also varied across other socio-demographic factors, such as age, education, and location. Unemployment was found to be highest (12.5%) for youth ages 16-19 years which also falls within the age range at highest risk of sexual violence. *IntX*. Those with less than high school education had the highest unemployment rate (6.1%), followed by high school graduates (4%), some college/ associate degree (3.6%) and lowest in bachelor's degree or higher (2.4%) (Labor Market Information Report, 2022).

Although there was no gender difference in the unemployment rate, it varied considerably across the counties ranging from 0.6% in King County to 11.5% in Starr County (Labor Market Information Report, 2022).

- A global study assessing data from 31 countries found that a 1% increase in the male unemployment rate is associated with a 2.7% increase in the incidence of abuse against women (Bhalotra et.al, 2021).
- Another study also found a strong correlation between youth unemployment and incidents of rape using both the count of rape and rate of rape per 100,000 population (Caruso, 2015).
- ✦ While unemployment data are available, the lack of Texas-specific data on sexual violence that is linkable to unemployment data prevents a more accurate analysis to clarify this variable's impact on sexual violence in Texas. *Additional data are needed to fully understand this variable's impact on sexual violence in Texas.*

Variable: Urban vs. Non-Urban

- Few rural communities have resources such as sexual assault nurse examiner programs or rape and sexual assault crisis centers (Office for Victims of Crimes, 2006).
- There is a shortage of trained sexual assault service providers in rural areas (Carter-Snell et al., 2020; Thiede E., Miyamoto S., 2021; Sheeran et. al., 2022; Treat et.al., 2022).
- ✦ Rural areas in Texas like the rest of the nation are dealing with a severe shortage of sexual assault services which include prevention services, Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners, other forensic services, and therapists (Kellison et. al., 2020; Gary, J. C., Charles, L., & Mitchell, S. 2022).
- ✦ *Additional data are needed to fully understand this variable's impact on sexual violence in Texas.*

Societal norms that support male superiority and sexual entitlement

Variable: College Students

- Women ages 18-24 who are not enrolled in college are 4x more likely to experience SV than women in general while Females of the same age who are college students are 3 times more likely than women in general to experience SV. (DoJ, 2014b). *IntX*
 - SV is more prevalent at college when compared to other serious crimes. College women are 2x more likely to be sexually assaulted than robbed (Cantor et al., 2017)
 - Precollege perpetration is related to both fraternity and varsity athletic team membership. This provides additional support for and an explanation of the known relationship between collegiate SV perpetration and membership in these groups (Salazar, 2018).
- ✦ *Additional data are needed to fully understand this variable's impact on sexual violence in Texas.*

Hyper-masculinity and hostility towards women

Variable: Military Service

- 6,053 military members reported experiencing sexual assault during military service in FY 2018. The Department of Defense (DoD) estimates about 20,500 service members experienced sexual assault that year (Schlueter & Schenck, 2021).
 - DoD estimates 6.2% of active-duty women and 0.7% of active-duty men experienced sexual assault in FY 2018 (DoD, 2020). *IntX*
- ✦ *Additional data is needed to fully understand this variable's impact on sexual violence in Texas.*

Variable: Athletics

- Intercollegiate athletes and recreational athletes are more likely to perpetrate sexual violence compared with non-athletes (McCray et al., 2023).
 - A higher percentage of athletes (54.3%) engaging in sexual coercion, compared to 37.9% of non-athletes (Young et al, 2017).
 - Among student-athletes, 36% of those on women's teams experienced sexual violence compared to 13% of those on men's teams (Adhia et al., 2023). *IntX*
- ✦ *Additional data are needed to fully understand this variable's impact on sexual violence in Texas.*

Variable: Fraternity Membership

- Fraternity membership was associated with higher likelihood of reporting sexual assault perpetration (Hoxmeier & Zapp, 2022).
 - Fraternity members have been found to be more accepting of sexual violence (Seabrook et al., 2018).
- ✦ *Additional data are needed to fully understand this variable's impact on sexual violence in Texas.*

PROTECTIVE FACTORS

Connection to a caring adult*

Variable: Parental Monitoring

- Parental monitoring was protective against child sexual abuse (Babatsikos & Miles, 2015).
- Decrease in parental monitoring is associated with an increase in youth's risk for perpetration. However, no research to date has examined how protective factor trajectories contribute to the likelihood of SV perpetration over time (Basile et al., 2018).
- Parent respect for privacy acts as a protective factor for physical violence victimization (Basile, 2018).
- ✦ *Additional data are needed to fully understand this variable's impact on sexual violence in Texas.*

Variable: Maternal Relationship

- Lack of maternal monitoring has been associated with physical dating violence, bullying, and sexual harassment perpetration in adolescence (Foshee et al., 2016).
- ✦ *Additional data are needed to fully understand this variable's impact on sexual violence in Texas.*

Variable: Developmental relationship with non-parent caring adults

Background: Per the Search Institute, Developmental Relationships are defined as a supportive, caring, nurturing and mentoring relationship usually between a youth and a non-custodial adult (e.g., teacher, coach, mentor). This relationship facilitates optimal positive emotional and other forms of growth for both the youth and their mentor. Despite a scarcity of studies establishing *direct* relationship between having a developmental relationship and sexual violence, available research indicates a strong positive developmental relationship can result in protection for youth from sexual violence.

- Positive emotional connection to adults could be a buffer against the perpetration of sexual violence (Borowsky et al., 1997).
- Positive youth development provides youth with affective relationships and diverse experiences, enabling development of intentional self-regulation and multiple positive assets which then buffer youth from involvement in risky behaviors (e.g., sexual violence) (Bonnell et al., 2015).
- Among middle school students, developmental relationships strongly predicted academic motivation, their sense of belonging, and school climate. (Scales et al., 2020). *IntX*
- Stronger relationships with teachers/staff also result in better motivation. (Scales et al., 2022).
- ✦ *Additional data are needed to fully understand this variable's impact on sexual violence in Texas.*

Emotional health and connectedness*

Variable: Socio-Emotional Support

- Social support is significantly different between SV perpetrators and non-perpetrators over time (Basile, 2018).
- Having friends who were not sexually active was determined to be protective.
- Emotional health and community connectedness were significant protective factors for adolescent male sexual aggression.
- Academic achievement was protective for female sexual aggression (Basile, 2018).
- ✦ *Additional data are needed to fully understand this variable's impact on sexual violence in Texas.*

Empathy and concern for how one's actions affect others*

Variable: Emotional Intelligence

- Empathy may also be protective as non-perpetrators demonstrated significantly higher empathy scores at the beginning and end of middle school, showing increases over time, though non-perpetrators and perpetrators became more similar in high school" (Basile, 2018).
- ✦ *Additional data are needed to fully understand this variable's impact on sexual violence in Texas.*

Community support and connectedness*

Variable: School Characteristics or School Climate

- Attending schools with more LGBTQ-affirming climates reduced the likelihood of reporting physical IPV, but not sexual IPV, for female students (Adams et al., 2021).
- More LGBTQ-affirming school climates increased risk for sexual IPV among gay male students (Adams et al., 2021).
- Establishing LGBTQ-affirming school climates may reduce physical IPV for female students but may have unintended consequences on sexual IPV prevalence for gay male students (Adams et al., 2021).
- ✦ Texas-specific data are not available, but are needed to fully understand this variable's impact on sexual violence in this state. *The lack of Texas-specific data is a gap and a problem.*

GAPS IN THE LITERATURE

IMMIGRATION AND/OR IMMIGRANT STATUS

- Physically abused Latinas who were foreign born had two times greater odds of reporting recent IPSV than Latinas born in the USA who were abused (Cavanaugh, 2014).
- Being an immigrant was associated with increased risk for experiencing recurring sexual assault (i.e., both within the past year and prior to the past year) (Decker et al., 2007).
- Immigrant teens who have been previously victimized appear to be at heightened risk for re-victimization based on this same social context (Decker et al., 2007). *IntX*
- *Data are needed to fully understand immigration's impact on sexual violence in the United States. Little information exists and what does ranges widely from estimates of 10% to nearly 60% of migrant women. These data have not been substantiated by agencies/organizations such as the US Government, Amnesty International, or the World Health Organization.*
- ✦ Since February 2021, the White House has opened at least eight emergency influx sites of unaccompanied migrant children in Texas, including Freeman Coliseum, with a total capacity of about 14,000 beds.
- ✦ On April 7th, 2021, Governor Greg Abbott held a press conference and revealed there had been allegations of sexual assault occurring at the Freeman Coliseum facility. These were reported to the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services as well as the Texas Health and Human Services Commission. Neither the number of victims nor their identities have been disclosed. The investigation is ongoing (McCullough, 2021).

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