



**OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION
AND RESPONSE OFFICE**

Annual Report on Sexual Harassment and Violence at the Military Service Academies Academic Program Year 2013-2014

**PREVENTING SEXUAL ASSAULT
IS EVERYONE'S DUTY.**

Purpose

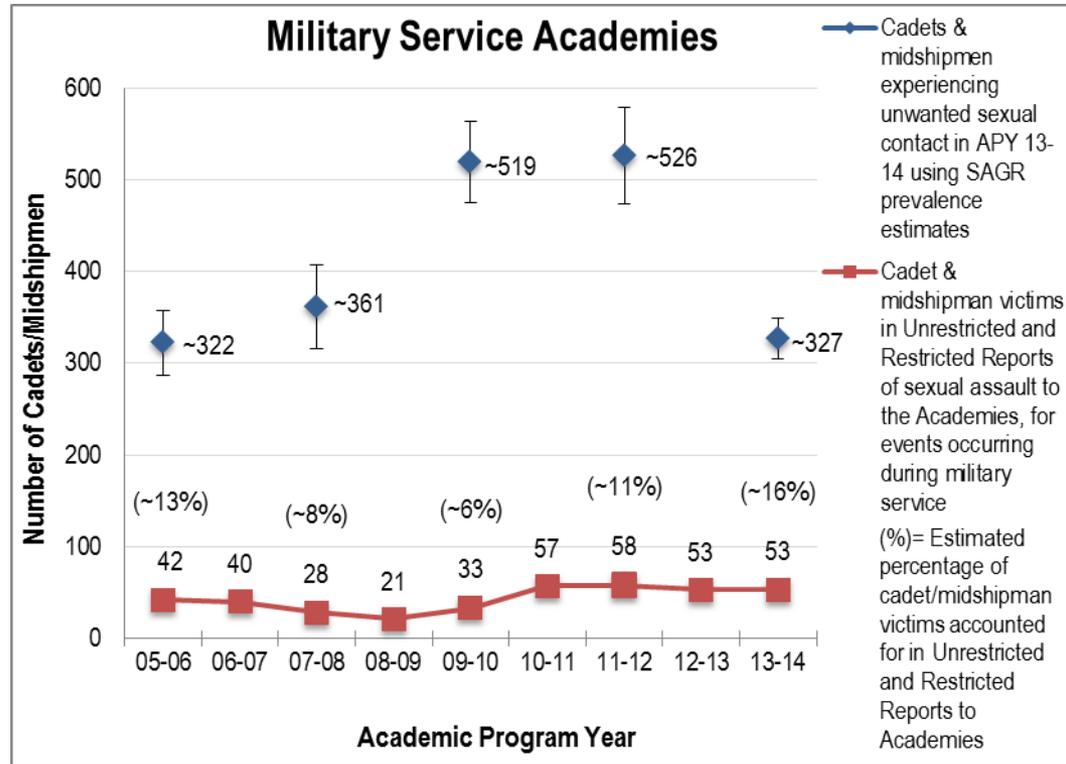
- Preview the annual Military Service Academy Report
- Share Secretarial Directives

Background

- Section 532 of Public Law Number 109-364 requires an assessment at the Military Service Academies (MSAs) during each Academic Program Year (APY), June 1 to May 31
 - In APYs beginning in odd-numbered years (e.g., this year), the annual assessment is comprised of an academy self-assessment and an anonymous survey of cadets and midshipmen
 - In APYs beginning in even-numbered years (e.g., next year), DoD SAPRO and ODMEIO conduct on-site assessments of the MSAs and focus groups of cadets/midshipmen

Top Line Results: Prevalence vs. Reports

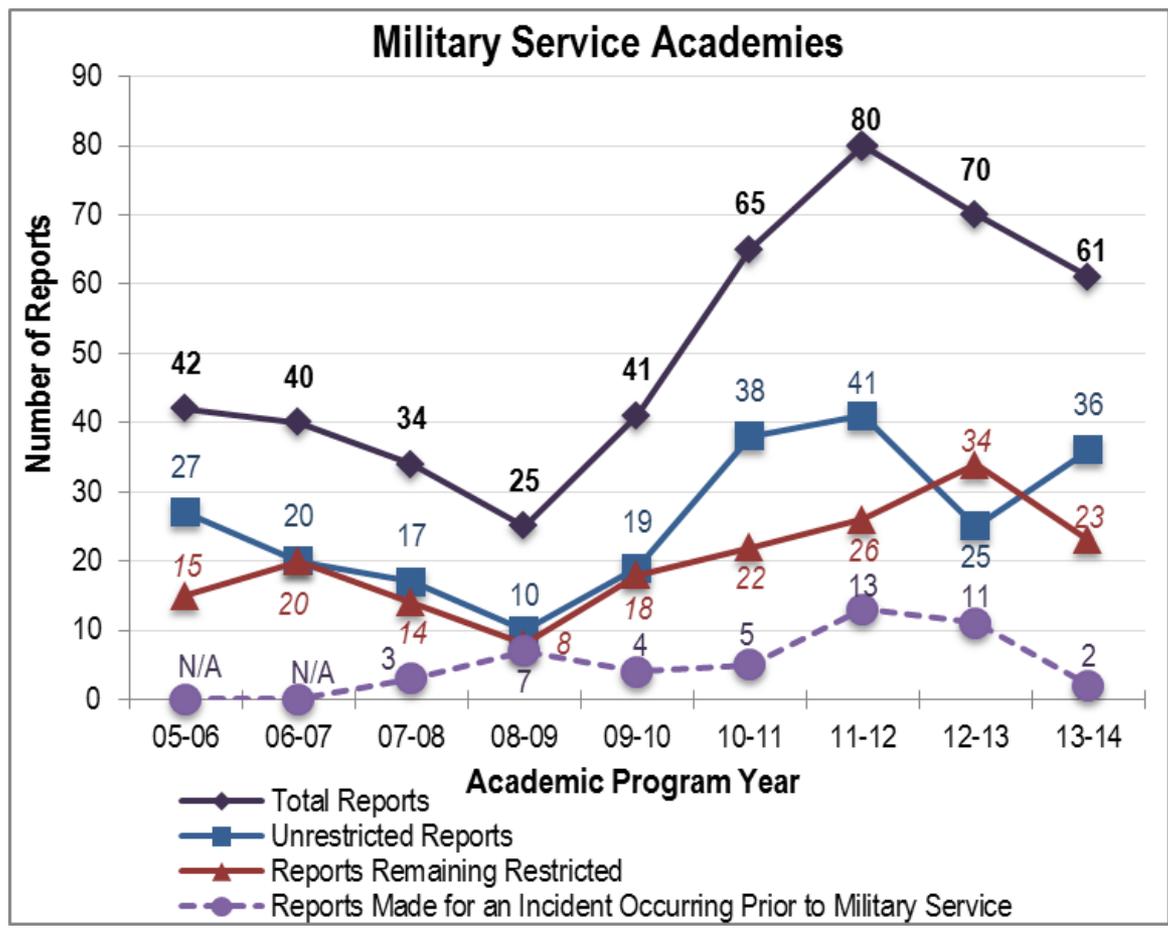
- **Estimated rates of unwanted sexual contact for both academy men and women decreased to the lowest levels seen since 2005.**
 - Women: From 12.4% (2012) to 8.2% (2014)
 - Men: From 2.0% (2012) to 1.1% (2014)
 - Estimates suggest that nearly two hundred fewer sexual assaults occurred in 2014 than in 2012
- **Reports of sexual assault by academy victims stayed about the same as last year, with 53 cadet and midshipman victims in reports made during the APY for events that occurred in military service**
 - The reporting rate is 16%, up from 11% in 2012
 - However: overall reporting* of sexual assault decreased from 70 reports in APY12-13, to 61 reports in APY13-14
 - Continues an overall downward trend



The increase in reporting seen in the active force in FY 13 and FY14 did not occur at the Academies

*Note: "Overall reporting" includes reports with cadet/midshipman victims for incidents occurring while in military service (as represented by the red line in the graph above), as well as reports involving cadets and midshipmen as subjects (perpetrators) and cadet/midshipmen victims making a report for an incident that occurred *prior* to military service.

Overall Sexual Assault Reports by Type of Report



In APY 13-14, the Military Service Academies received 61 reports of sexual assault. As shown above, 36 reports were unrestricted, 23 reports were restricted, and two reports were made for an incident occurring prior to military service. Unrestricted Reporting increased by 11 reports from APY 12-13, and Restricted Reporting decreased by 11 reports from APY 12-13.

Service Academy Gender Relations Survey

Defense Manpower Data Center

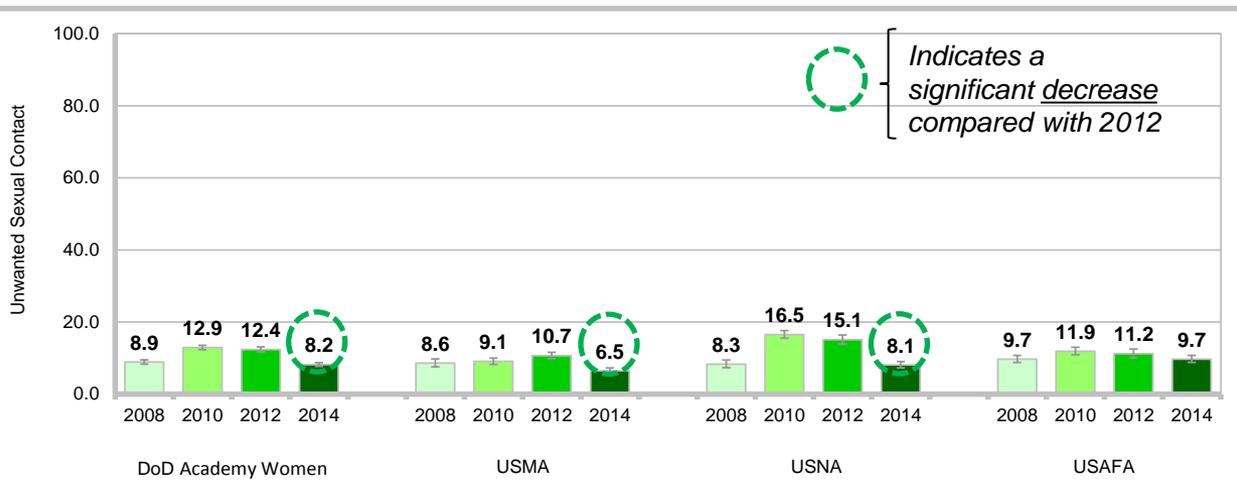


Dr. Elizabeth P. Van Winkle, Director
The Defense Center for Integrative Research (DCIR/DMDC)
elizabeth.p.vanwinkle.civ@mail.mil

- DMDC survey methodology
 - Data weighted to produce estimates of population totals using industry standards for scientific surveys
 - Use of scientifically valid metrics from prior surveys, coupled with consistent methodology, allows DMDC to compare estimates across time
- 2014 Service Academy Gender Relations Survey (*2014 SAGR*)
 - Census of all cadets/midshipmen, onsite administration, anonymous
 - USCGA and USMMA surveyed, not included in this briefing
 - Overall DoD Academy response rate 66% (82% for women and 63% for men)
 - “Unwanted Sexual Contact” (USC)
 - Behaviorally-based
 - Aligns with specific behaviors prohibited by UCMJ
 - Not a “crime index,” serves as a “proxy” for sexual assault
 - » *2014 RMWS* and *2014 WGRA* conducted by RAND found no significant differences between the overall rates of USC and sexual assault as measured by a crime victimization measure

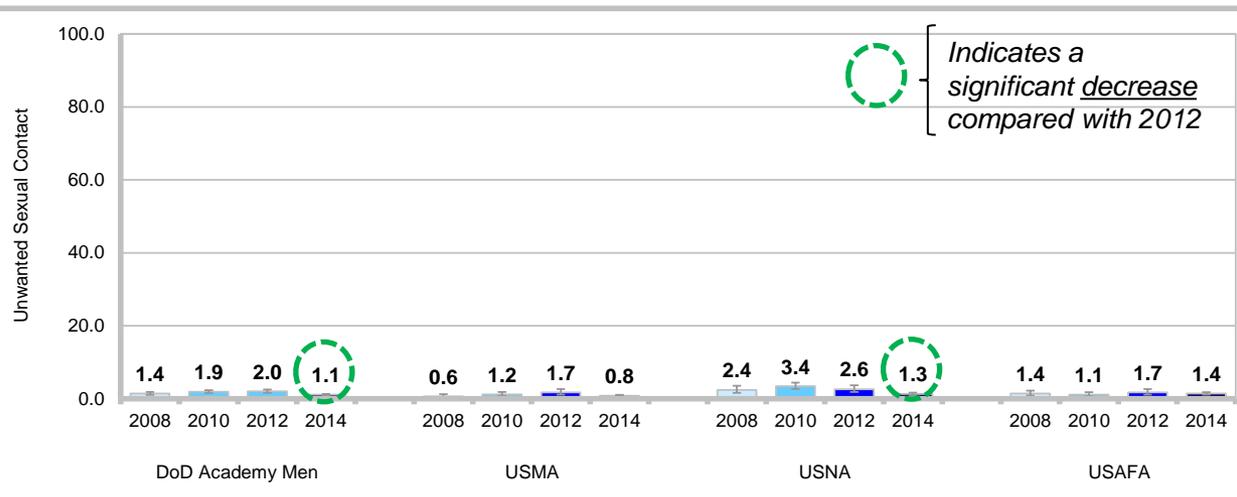
Unwanted Sexual Contact Past-Year Prevalence

Percent of DoD Academy Women and Men



DoD Academy Women:

- The estimated prevalence rate of USC was lower in 2014 than 2012 and 2010 for DoD Academy women; unchanged from 2008
 - USMA women: 2014 prevalence rate lower than 2012, 2010, and 2008
 - USNA women: 2014 prevalence rate lower than 2012, 2010; unchanged from 2008
 - USAFA women: 2014 prevalence rate unchanged from 2012, 2008; lower than 2010
- Estimated number of women ranges from 197 to 223, with a point estimate of 210 *



DoD Academy Men:

- The estimated prevalence rate of USC was lower in 2014 than 2012 and 2010 for DoD Academy men; unchanged from 2008
 - USMA: 2014 prevalence rate unchanged from 2012, 2010, and 2008
 - USNA men: 2014 prevalence rate lower than 2012, 2010; unchanged from 2008
 - USAFA men: 2014 prevalence rate unchanged from 2012, 2010, and 2008
- Estimated number of men ranges from 100 to 134 with a point estimate of 117*

* Constructed from a 95 percent confidence interval based on the total number of respondents who completed the survey (2,097 women, 6,465 men) from a census of students (2,557 women, 10,323 men). SAGR 2014 Q21

Additional Data

- Class Differences:
 - Sophomore women had significantly higher estimated rates of USC compared to other Academic classes. This is consistent across all DoD Academies.
 - Past-year prevalence rate for DoD Academy women by class:
 - Freshman 5.8%
 - Sophomore 13.3%
 - Junior 5.1%
 - Senior 8.6%
- Prior Experiences of Unwanted Sexual Contact
 - An estimated 16.2% of DoD Academy women and 3.7% of DoD Academy men indicated experiencing some form of USC prior to entering the Academy
 - The 12-month USC prevalence rate for DoD Academy students who experienced USC prior to entering the Academy is significantly higher than the general Academy population
- Perceived Sexual Harassment
 - The estimated prevalence rate of perceived sexual harassment was lower in 2014 than 2012, 2010, and 2008 for DoD Academy women, though this was driven by a significant decrease at USNA
 - USMA women: 2014 prevalence rate higher than 2012, 2010, and 2008
 - USNA women: 2014 prevalence rate lower than 2012, 2010, and 2008
 - USAFA women: 2014 prevalence rate higher than 2012; lower than 2010; and unchanged from 2008
 - The estimated prevalence rate of perceived sexual harassment was unchanged from 2012, 2008 for DoD Academy men; lower than 2010
 - USMA men: 2014 prevalence rate higher than 2012, 2010, and 2008
 - USNA men: 2014 prevalence rate unchanged from 2012; lower than 2010, 2008
 - USAFA men: 2014 prevalence rate unchanged from 2012, 2010, and 2008

Continuum of Harm

Estimated Percent of Students Who Experienced USC

Continuum of Harm Populations	DoD Academy Total (Men and Women)
USC rate for comparison	2.5%
Offender <u>sexually harassed</u> survivor prior to USC situation of greatest effect	34%
Offender <u>sexually assaulted</u> survivor prior to USC situation of greatest effect	25%
Offender <u>stalked</u> survivor prior to USC situation of greatest effect	11%

- Based on self-report of unwanted behaviors and may not meet legal definition of “sexual harassment,” “sexual assault,” or “stalking”
- This table shows *prior* experiences survivors had with the same offender(s) who perpetrated the USC event that had the greatest effect on them

Perceived Retaliation

Estimated Percent of Students Who Experienced USC and Reported to a Military Authority or Organization

Type of Retaliation Perceived	DoD Academy Total (Men and Women)	USMA Total	USNA Total	USAFA Total
Any form of retaliation	41%	20%	31%	58%
Professional retaliation from Academy leadership	14%	20%	NR	18%
Social retaliation from fellow cadets/midshipmen	29%	20%	31%	34%
Punishments for infractions/violations	10%	9%	NR	17%

Note: The annotation "NR" indicates that a specific result is not reportable due to low reliability. Caution should be taken due to small cell sizes.

- New question in 2014
- General measure of retaliatory climate based on self-perceptions
 - Professional retaliation from Academy leadership (e.g., loss of privileges, denied promotion)
 - Social retaliation from fellow cadets/midshipmen (e.g., ignored by peers, blamed for the situation)
 - Punishments for infractions/violations (e.g., underage drinking, fraternization)

Report Summary

- **The occurrence of sexual assault is down across the Academies**
 - Estimated past-year prevalence rates of unwanted sexual contact are at their lowest in 10 years
 - Estimates indicate there were nearly 200 fewer sexual assault victims in 2014 than in 2012
 - Organizational and policy changes set in place are promoting a safer environment for officer education and development
 - More must be done to promote greater respect for gender differences
- **Sexual Assault reporting by cadet and midshipman victims held steady from 2012 to 2014**
 - Reporting offers the primary avenue for victims to seek care and for the Department to hold offenders appropriately accountable
 - Nearly 60% of cadets and midshipmen making a report chose an Unrestricted Report – up from about 40% last year
 - Academies are unique, close-knit environments with special considerations that impact cadet and midshipman reporting
- **Greater time and resource investment on incomplete directives and recommendations required to advance desired climate**
 - Academies have worked hard to bring about the decrease in sexual assault prevalence
 - Progress on pending items will help the MSAs achieve further reductions in sexual assault and sexual harassment prevalence and improve reporting
 - DoD will assess and report on MSA progress in next year's assessment

Secretarial Directives (1 of 3)

To continue improving our service academy programs and ensure cohesion with Department-wide efforts, the Secretary is directing implementation of these essential measures:

- **Strategic Dialogue:** The Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness (USD(P&R)) will host a senior summit each Academic Program Year for Service Academy leadership and others to facilitate collaboration and exchange of best practices and lessons learned in prevention and response policies. Service Academy leadership will also be incorporated into the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Executive Integrated Product Team forum.
- **Targeted Interventions:** The Secretaries of the Military Departments will develop and conduct specific prevention programs and initiatives for cadets and midshipmen at the conclusion of their first Academic Program Year. This training will address professional relationship expectations and the factors behind higher rates of sexual assault experienced during the Academy third-class year. Submit your planned activities to the USD (P&R) by May 31, 2015 and complete this orientation for rising second-year cadets and midshipmen by the start of the Academic Program Year 2015-2016.

Secretarial Directives (2 of 3)

To continue improving our service academy programs and ensure cohesion with Department-wide efforts, SecDef is directing implementation of these essential measures:

- **Addressing Prior Victimization:** DoD SAPRO will develop and deploy an anonymous, self-guided education program designed to address and support those cadets, midshipmen, and other military members who may have been victims of sexual assault or abuse prior to entering military service. Report a plan for implementation to the USD(P&R) by May 31, 2015
- **Improving Sexual Assault Reporting:** To encourage greater reporting of sexual assault, the Superintendents of the Military Service Academies, in collaboration with the Department of Defense and Military Service Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program offices, will assess their individual academy climates and develop a plan to promote greater reporting of these crimes by cadets and midshipmen. Submit your plan to the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness by May 31, 2015.

Secretarial Directives (3 of 3)

Finally, to **bolster Service-wide efforts** aimed at reducing retaliation associated with reporting of sexual assault, the Secretary of Defense is directing that the USD(P&R), in collaboration with the Office of General Counsel, the Inspector General, and the Secretaries of the Military Departments, conduct a comprehensive review of the means available to address both social and professional retaliation, to include appropriate social media conduct. This review will include recommendations for changes to law and/or policy.



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Questions

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