



OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
4000 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-4000

**PERSONNEL AND
READINESS**

The Honorable Mike D. Rogers
Chairman
Committee on Armed Services
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

MAR - 4 2025

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The Department's Annual Report on Sexual Harassment and Violence at the Military Service Academies, Academic Program Year 2023-2024 is enclosed. The report satisfies section 532 of the John Warner National Defense Authorization Act for the Fiscal Year 2007 (Public Law 109-364) requiring an annual report for each Academic Program Year (APY) on the effectiveness of the policies, training, and procedures of the Military Service Academies regarding sexual harassment and sexual violence involving personnel at the United States Military Academy, United States Naval Academy, and the United States Air Force Academy.

The report for APY 2023-2024 includes an analysis of data collected from the Academies' self-assessments, an analysis of Sexual Assault Prevention and Response reporting data and sexual harassment complaint data, and the results of the Office of People Analytics academy survey.

The results of this year's Academy survey found that the estimated prevalence of unwanted sexual contact (USC) significantly decreased compared to estimates from 2022, disrupting an alarming upward trend in the prevalence of USC at the Academies over the past 10 years. In 2024, an estimated 13.3 percent of Academy women and an estimated 3.6 percent of Academy men indicated they experienced at least one incident of USC during the APY, compared to an estimated 21.4 percent of Academy women and an estimated 4.4 percent of Academy men in 2022. While the estimated prevalence rates should not be construed as legal crime victimization rates in the absence of an investigation being conducted to determine a verified outcome, the Department uses this information to inform sexual assault prevention and response efforts. Estimated rates of sexual harassment also significantly decreased for both academy men and women.

This year's improvements reflect the dedication of Military Department and Academy leaders to transforming their campus climates so that harmful behaviors are less likely to occur. While the progress is notable, the mission is not complete, as the total number of cadets and midshipmen impacted by these challenges remains too high. A sustained decreasing trend is only possible through institutionalizing transformational change. To that end, we must continue to implement climate transformation actions, prioritize prevention efforts, support for survivors, and accountability measures to ensure long-term meaningful change.

I sincerely appreciate your commitment to our Service members and assure you this matter has my closest attention. I am sending a similar letter to the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Darin S. Selnick". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "D".

Darin S. Selnick
Performing the Duties of the Under Secretary of
Defense for Personnel and Readiness

Enclosure:

As stated

cc:

The Honorable Adam Smith
Ranking Member



OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
4000 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-4000

**PERSONNEL AND
READINESS**

The Honorable Roger F. Wicker
Chairman
Committee on Armed Services
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

MAR - 4 2025

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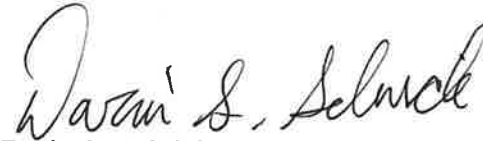
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Darin S. Selnick

Performing the Duties of the Under Secretary of
Defense for Personnel and Readiness

Enclosure:
As stated

cc:
The Honorable Jack Reed
Ranking Member



Annual Report on Sexual Harassment and Sexual Violence at the Military Service Academies

Academic Program Year 2023-2024





Department of Defense Annual Report on Sexual Harassment and Violence at the
Military Service Academies, Academic Program Year 2023-2024

The estimated cost of this report or study for the Department of Defense is approximately \$840,000 in Academic Program Year 2023-2024. This includes \$207,000 in expenses and \$634,000 in DoD labor.

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- Appendix F: List of Acronyms
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Insights from This Year's Data

- The 2024 academy survey conducted for Academic Program Year 2023-2024 found that an estimated 13.3 percent of academy women and an estimated 3.6 percent of academy men experienced unwanted sexual contact in the year prior to being surveyed.
- The 2024 estimated prevalence rate represents a statistically significant decrease since 2022 for academy women (down from an estimated 21.4 percent) and for academy men (down from an estimated 4.4 percent).
- The 2024 academy survey also found that the estimated rate for sexual harassment significantly decreased for academy women and men. An estimated 51 percent of academy women (down from 63 percent in 2022) and an estimated 17 percent of academy men (down from 20 percent in 2022) experienced an incident of sexual harassment in the prior year to being surveyed.
- The Academies received a total of 126 reports of sexual assault, which is a decrease of 40 reports from the 166 reports received in Academic Program Year 2022-2023.
- Of the 126 reports, 103 were from cadets and midshipmen who made an Unrestricted or Restricted Report of sexual assault for an incident that occurred during military service.
- The reporting rate in 2024 slightly decreased (down from 14 percent in 2022 to 13 percent in 2024), amounting to 1 in 8 cadets/midshipmen reporting their incident of sexual assault to a Department authority.

The full report is available at <https://www.sapr.mil>.

Executive Summary

Section 532 of the John Warner National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2007 (Public Law 109-364) requires the Department of Defense to annually assess the Military Service Academies (the United States Military Academy, the United States Naval Academy, and the United States Air Force Academy) to determine the effectiveness of their sexual assault and sexual harassment policies, training, and procedures.

In Academic Program Year 2023-2024, the Department of Defense met the statutory requirement by conducting a prevalence survey of cadets and midshipmen at the Academies, examining the Academies' self-assessments, and documenting sexual assault reporting and sexual harassment complaint data.

This year's report provides an update on Department efforts to prevent and eliminate sexual assault and sexual harassment at the Academies, includes sexual assault reporting and sexual harassment complaint data, and provides results from a prevalence survey administered to cadets and midshipmen at the Academies.

Current State

In August 2023, accompanying the 2023 Military Service Academy On-Site Installation Evaluation Report, the then-Secretary of Defense released the memorandum, "Actions to Transform the Climate and Help Prevent Harmful Behaviors at the U.S. Military Service Academies," directing the Academies to take transformational actions to reverse upward trends of a number of harmful behaviors, to include sexual assault and sexual harassment.

One of these actions established the Military Service Academy Climate Transformation Task Force, composed of senior military and civilian personnel from each Military Department and Academy in addition to other members of Department leadership, to enhance collaboration on improving climate and integrated prevention efforts at the Academies.

In 2024, notable progress was made to reverse the upward trend since 2014 in sexual violence at the Academies. However, as the summary of the 2024 academy survey data

will indicate below, the estimated prevalence of unwanted sexual contact and sexual harassment continues to impact the academy experience. The Climate Transformation Task Force is a catalyst for reshaping the academy environment and addressing the risk and protective factors that give rise to sexual violence. There is indication that its efforts to reduce unhealthy campus climate factors contributing to sexual violence and other harmful behaviors are taking hold. The leadership provided by the Military Departments to transform command climate and enhance integrated prevention at the Academies is crucial to achieving lasting change. A more thorough description of the task force's current work is included in the body of this report.

Summary of the 2024 Academy Survey Prevalence Data

The Department assesses progress with sexual assault¹ via two primary metrics:

- **Prevalence** (i.e., estimated total of cadets and midshipmen experiencing at least one incident of unwanted sexual contact during the prior year, as measured by scientific surveys – desired state is *decrease*)
- **Reporting rate** (i.e., estimated percentage of cadets and midshipmen making Restricted and Unrestricted Reports of sexual assault – desired state is *increase*)

The above metrics rely on the results from the Department of Defense Office of People Analytics academy survey, which was conducted in-person at the Military Service Academies from March to April 2024. This congressionally mandated survey is administered biennially and provides the Department with official estimates of the prevalence of unwanted sexual contact,² sexual harassment, and sex discrimination among cadets and midshipmen at the Military Service Academies based on self-reported responses of survey participants. Results from the 2024 academy survey are summarized below.

The 2024 academy survey found that the estimated prevalence of unwanted sexual contact significantly decreased compared to estimates from 2022, disrupting an alarming upward trend in the estimated prevalence of unwanted sexual contact at the Academies over the past ten years. In 2024, an estimated 13.3 percent of academy women and an estimated 3.6 percent of academy men indicated they experienced at least one incident of unwanted sexual contact during the Academic Program Year, compared to an estimated 21.4 percent of women and an estimated 4.4 percent of men in 2022. Based on these rates, the Department further estimates that 783 academy men and women (compared to 1,136 academy men and women in 2022) experienced some form of unwanted sexual contact during Academic Program Year 2023-2024.

Estimated rates of sexual harassment significantly decreased for academy men and women since 2022. The 2024 academy survey found that an estimated 51 percent of academy women (1,707 cadets/midshipmen) and an estimated 17 percent of academy men (1,511 cadets/midshipmen) experienced sexual harassment, a statistically significant decrease from the estimated 63 percent for women and an estimated 20 percent for men in 2022.

¹ "Sexual assault" refers to a range of Uniform Code of Military Justice crimes, including rape, sexual assault, aggravated sexual contact, abusive sexual contact, and attempts to commit these offenses.

² "Unwanted sexual contact" refers to a range of sex-related offenses prohibited by the Uniform Code of Military Justice, including completed or attempted oral, anal, or vaginal penetration by a body part or an object, and the unwanted touching of genitalia, buttocks, breasts, or inner thighs when the victim did not know or did not consent.

Prevalence estimates for sex discrimination were significantly lower than in 2022.

Compared to 2022, the prevalence estimates for sex discrimination were significantly lower for academy men and women overall and at each Academy. In 2024, an estimated 25 percent of academy women (862 cadets/midshipmen) and an estimated four percent of academy men (367 cadets/midshipmen) experienced sex discrimination. This contrasts with an estimated 33 percent of academy women and an estimated five percent of academy men who indicated experiencing sex discrimination in 2022.

Indications of progress regarding actions to improve academy climate were evident this Academic Program Year. The 2024 academy survey found decreases in excessive alcohol use/binge drinking and perceived lower tolerance among peers for sexual harassment. Cadet and midshipman perceptions of efforts by academy leadership, faculty, and staff to stop sexual assault and sexual harassment improved since 2022 – suggestive of a community-level effort that is observable to cadets and midshipmen.

Additional Outcomes from the 2024 Academy Survey Data

Additional analysis of the 2024 academy survey revealed the following outcomes:

Despite the Significant Decrease in Estimated Prevalence Since 2022, the Estimated Number of Cadets/Midshipmen Experiencing Unwanted Sexual Contact Remained Unacceptably High

In 2024, the Department estimates that 327 academy men and 457 academy women (a total of 783 cadets/midshipmen) experienced some form of unwanted sexual contact during Academic Program Year 2023-2024.³ While these estimates are significantly lower than in 2022, the total number of cadets/midshipmen affected by sexual violence remains among one of the highest seen in recent years. Prevalence estimates for academy men and women also appear higher than comparably aged Service members in the active duty force.

Decreases in Unwanted Sexual Contact Varied by Type for Academy Men and Women While Incident Characteristics Remained Consistent

The 2024 academy survey indicated that statistically significant decreases in all types of unwanted sexual contact for academy women and completed and attempted penetration for academy men drove the overall decreases in Academic Program Year 2023-2024. For academy women, the largest statistically significant decrease was in attempted penetration (down from an estimated 7.6 percent in 2022 to an estimated 3.9 percent in 2024). For academy men, the largest statistically significant decrease was in completed penetration (down from an estimated 1.0 percent in 2022 to an estimated 0.6 percent in 2024).

Incident characteristics can inform and refine actions underway to address climate and further prevent harmful behaviors. The 2024 academy survey found that characteristics of unwanted sexual contact incidents were consistent with prior years. Alleged offenders were most often fellow cadets and midshipmen in the same class year. Offenses occurred on and off academy grounds and most often after duty hours on a weekend or holiday.

³ This estimate of 783 cadets/midshipmen experiencing some form of unwanted sexual contact is due to rounding.

Excessive Alcohol Use Significantly Decreased and was a Distinguishing Feature in More Serious Unwanted Sexual Contact Incidents

Continuing the pattern seen in 2022, light drinking and alcohol abstinence increased for academy men and women, while excessive alcohol use (i.e., heavy drinking (five or more alcoholic drinks for men and four or more drinks for women in a typical day of drinking) binge drinking, and alcohol-induced amnesia) significantly decreased for academy men and women. Decreases in alcohol consumption likely contribute to reductions in risk. Prevention approaches that target alcohol use as well as other risk factors will help sustain change.

According to the 2024 academy survey, an estimated 46 percent of unwanted sexual contact events involved alcohol use by either the victim and/or alleged offender, a statistically significant decrease from an estimated 60 percent in 2022.⁴ Alcohol use was associated with more severe unwanted sexual contact incidents, such as completed or attempted penetration, both of which significantly declined in prevalence for both academy women and men in 2024.

Class Year, Prior Experiences, and Sexual Harassment Remained Risk Factors

The 2024 academy survey highlighted class year, prior experiences of unwanted sexual contact (i.e., prior to entering the Academies), and sexual harassment as risk factors for experiencing unwanted sexual contact. While the estimated rates of unwanted sexual contact significantly decreased for academy women across all class years, the estimated rates were highest for sophomores (an estimated 16.6 percent) and juniors (an estimated 16.7 percent). The estimated rates of unwanted sexual contact significantly decreased for sophomore and junior men but were highest among sophomore (an estimated 4.3 percent) and senior (an estimated 4.2 percent) men.

A prior sexual assault experience elevates risk for experiencing unwanted sexual contact in the future. Although the 2024 academy survey found that academy men and women were significantly less likely to experience unwanted sexual contact prior to entering the Academies (an estimated 7.9 percent for men and an estimated 28.9 percent for women) than in 2022, prior experiences continue to be highly associated with risk for revictimization. Compared to 2022, significantly fewer women and men indicated experiencing sexual harassment in 2024. However, experiencing sexual harassment was significantly associated with increased risk for experiencing unwanted sexual contact for both women and men.

These findings underscore the need to sustain focus on appropriate resources, support, and an environment that does not exacerbate risk for sexual assault and other harmful behaviors at the Academies.

Demographic Differences Impact Risk for Unwanted Sexual Contact

Prior surveys of the general public reveal substantially higher rates of sexual violence for lesbian, gay, and bisexual individuals, as do prior surveys of the active duty force.⁵ In 2024,

⁴ References to alcohol use by the victim are not intended to suggest the victim is to blame for the unwanted sexual contact. Instead, the information provides important context regarding unwanted sexual contact incidents to better inform interventions to prevent violent and harmful behaviors.

⁵ For the active duty force, see the Office of People Analytics 2021 *Workplace Gender Relations Survey of Military Members*: Overview Report pgs. 32-33. Regarding the naming of this survey, prior to 2025, the Office of People

sexual minorities (i.e., survey respondents who identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual, or marked “I use a different term”) were significantly more likely to experience unwanted sexual contact than their heterosexual peers, despite decreases in experiencing unwanted sexual contact since 2022.

These survey data underscore the value of continuing to apply prevention approaches that address the elevated risk for sexual minorities at the Academies. In addition, the data demonstrate the need for academy response personnel who are prepared to address the needs of cadets and midshipmen, including those belonging to minority groups. Victims of sexual violence who already face stigma or biases related to their status as a sexual minority may be hesitant to seek care or face unique barriers in doing so. Continuing to increase preparedness among academy response personnel will sustain a capability that is responsive to the entire academy community.

Perceptions of Trust in Academy Leadership and Efforts by Academy Personnel to Prevent Sexual Violence Improved but Differ Between Men and Women

Academy men and women indicated having greater levels of trust in the Academies to protect their privacy, ensure their safety following an incident of sexual assault, and treat them with dignity and respect than in 2022, although women remained much less trusting than men. These data indicate modest but important improvements in perceptions in trust with regard to protecting the privacy of cadets and midshipmen, ensuring their safety, and treating them with dignity and respect were they to experience sexual assault.

The 2024 academy survey indicated that student perceptions of academy leadership efforts to stop sexual assault and sexual harassment significantly increased since 2022 for academy men and women. Cadets and midshipmen were more confident that academy senior leadership, faculty, staff, and cadet/midshipman leadership, were making honest and reasonable efforts to stop sexual assault and sexual harassment. These favorable student perceptions are suggestive of a community-level effort that is observable to cadets and midshipmen.

Summary of Academic Program Year 2023-2024 Sexual Assault Reporting and Sexual Harassment Complaint Data

Reports⁶ of sexual assault decreased in Academic Program Year 2023-2024. The Department encourages greater reporting of sexual assault to connect victims with restorative care and to hold alleged offenders appropriately accountable.⁷ This Academic Program Year, the Military Service Academies received a total of 126 reports of sexual assault involving cadets/midshipmen/preparatory school students as victims and/or alleged offenders, a decrease

Analytics research products used the term “gender” to describe men and women. These groups were defined using survey items and/or administrative data categories for “male” and “female;” therefore, references to gender should be understood to mean “sex.”

⁶ A report of sexual assault, whether Restricted or Unrestricted, consists of allegations of unwanted sexual contact made by an individual. The term “sexual assault report” refers to a report of allegations and should not be construed or evidence that a sexual assault occurred. A report does not in and of itself establish that an offense of sexual assault has been committed; only an investigation and adjudication of the allegations can lead to a legal conclusion that an offense has been committed.

⁷ Use of terms “victim(s),” “subject(s),” or “perpetrator(s)” throughout this report does not convey any legal conclusion that an allegation, incident, report, or event has been substantiated and does not convey any presumption regarding the guilt or innocence of the alleged offender(s) or perpetrator(s).

of 40 reports from the previous Academic Program Year. In the past year, 103 cadets and midshipmen made a sexual assault report for an incident that occurred during military service.

The rate of reporting slightly decreased compared to Academic Program Year 2021-2022.

The Department not only counts the number of reports received, but also uses survey estimates regarding the number of cadets and midshipmen who experienced unwanted sexual contact to estimate a reporting rate. In Academic Program Year 2023-2024, of the estimated 783 academy men and women who indicated experiencing unwanted sexual contact, 103 reported to a Department authority an alleged incident that occurred during their military service. This represents a 13 percent reporting rate, slightly down from 14 percent in Academic Program Year 2021-2022. Given this slight decrease, continued efforts to improve trust in military leadership may aid in a larger proportion of cadets and midshipmen viewing sexual assault reporting as beneficial and helpful.

About 12 percent of cadets and midshipmen making Restricted Reports converted to Unrestricted and participated in the military justice process.

The Department offers cadets and midshipmen the opportunity to make an Unrestricted or Restricted Report of sexual assault. When victims convert their Restricted Report to an Unrestricted Report, they choose to participate in the military justice process. The Military Service Academies initially received 81 Restricted Reports from cadets and midshipmen in Academic Program Year 2023-2024. Of the 81 cadets and midshipmen who made initial Restricted Reports, ten (12 percent) chose to convert to an Unrestricted Report in Academic Program Year 2023-2024. These ten converted Restricted Reports are counted in the 55 Unrestricted Reports received in Academic Program Year 2023-2024. The other 71 reports remained Restricted at the end of the year.

The total number of sexual harassment complaints received in Academic Program Year 2023-2024 decreased.

The Military Service Academies received a total of 17 complaints of sexual harassment (three formal complaints, 14 informal, and zero anonymous complaints). This is down from the 28 total complaints received in 2022. Of the 17 total complaints of sexual harassment made in Academic Program Year 2023-2024, the United States Military Academy received nine, the United States Naval Academy received four, and the United States Air Force Academy received four complaints.

Way Forward

Despite this year's significant decrease in the estimated prevalence rates of unwanted sexual contact, sexual assault continues to impact the academy experience. As such, the Military Service Academies must remain vigilant and dedicated to creating an environment of dignity and respect for all cadets and midshipmen. One of the Department's tools to aid in this is the Military Service Academy Climate Transformation Task Force. Its work is guiding the Military Departments and their respective Academies in transforming command climate and enhancing integrated prevention efforts so that cadets and midshipmen are better prepared to defend our Nation. Observed reductions in harmful behaviors should serve as encouragement, but also a reminder of the ongoing work needed to foster a healthier environment for our Nation's future warfighters and to ensure lasting change at the Military Service Academies.

Introduction

Congressional Reporting Requirement

The Department of Defense (DoD) annually assesses the Military Service Academies' (MSAs) programs that address sexual assault and sexual harassment as required by Section 532 of the John Warner National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2007 (FY27) (Public Law 109-364). This report fulfills the statutory requirement by reviewing the effectiveness of the Academies' policies, training, and procedures regarding sexual assault and sexual harassment for cadets, midshipmen, and military and civilian staff at the United States Military Academy (USMA), the United States Naval Academy (USNA), and the United States Air Force Academy (USAFA).

Report Contents

This report assesses the MSAs' programs and response actions from Academic Program Year (APY) 2023-2024 (APY 23-24) that address sexual assault and sexual harassment. Self-assessment reports by each Military Service are enclosed in Appendices A, B, and C. Detailed statistical data and analysis from APY 23-24 can be found in Appendices D and E. A list of acronyms used in this report can be found at Appendix F.

DoD assessments for APYs beginning in odd-numbered years, as is this year's report, include an anonymous scientific survey of cadets and midshipmen. The academy survey is administered biennially by the DoD Office of People Analytics (OPA) and covers topics such as past-year estimated prevalence of unwanted sexual contact (USC), sexual harassment, and sex discrimination among cadets and midshipmen, factors affecting reporting these harmful behaviors, and aspects of command climate. OPA's overview report is at Appendix G.

Assessment Process and Report Focus Areas

This report provides the Department's assessment of the Academies' current sexual assault and sexual harassment programs and response efforts from June 1, 2023, to May 31, 2024. The DoD assessment was informed by the following sources:

- The MSAs' response to programmatic self-assessments regarding response and related programmatic activities;
- Assessments of academy compliance with DoD and military response policy conducted by the Military Departments;
- Sexual assault reporting and sexual harassment complaint data; and
- Results from the 2024 academy survey.

This year's report is organized by and focuses on DoD and academy efforts in the following areas:

- Estimated prevalence of USC and sexual harassment in APY 23-24;
- Enhancing the academy environment; and
- Promoting a quality response.

APY 23-24 MSA Report Infographic

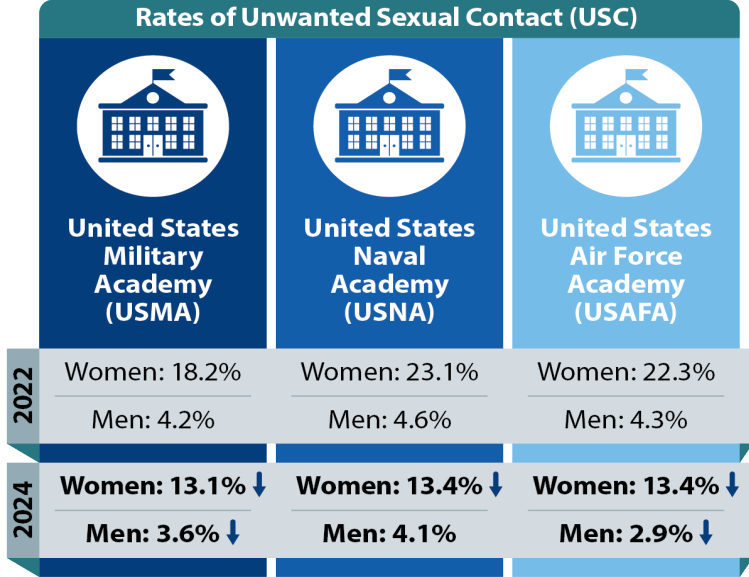
Sexual Assault and Sexual Harassment at the Military Service Academies

The three academies enroll about **13,426** students:

♂ 9,802 men	♀ 3,624 women
17% ↓	51% ↓
Indicated Experiencing Sexual Harassment	
3.6% ↓	13.3% ↓
Indicated Experiencing Unwanted Sexual Contact	

Of the **783** cadets and midshipmen who indicated experiencing USC

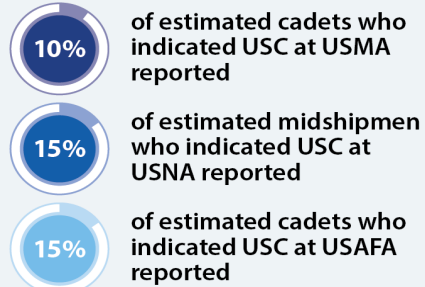
1 in 8 cadets/midshipmen reported to a DoD authority



Top Reasons for Reporting USC at the MSAs

- ▶ To **stop** the person(s) from hurting others (54%)
- ▶ Someone they told **encouraged** them to report (51%)
- ▶ To **stop** the person(s) from hurting them again (46%)

13% overall USC reporting rate



Cadet and Midshipman Survey Results

The prevalence of sexual assault and sexual harassment **declined** at the MSAs compared to 2022, disrupting an alarming upward trend in the prevalence of USC and sexual harassment at the MSAs over the past ten years.

This year's **reduction** in prevalence reflects the ongoing commitment by leaders to fostering a healthier academy environment, but it also serves as a reminder that much work remains to be done.

46% of all estimated USC events involved a alcohol, a statistically significant **decrease** from 60% in 2022



Department of Defense Annual Report on Sexual Harassment and Violence at the Military Service Academies Academic Program Year 2023-2024

Sources: 2024 Service Academy Gender Relations Survey, DoD Office of People Analytics and Defense Sexual Assault Incident Database, DoD Sexual Assault Prevention and Reponse Office

Estimated Prevalence of USC and Sexual Harassment in APY 23-24

Title 10, United States Code, Sections 7461, 8480, and 9461, as amended, requires the Department to biennially conduct its academy prevalence survey so that it can better understand the impact of sexual assault and sexual harassment on cadets and midshipmen. These survey data are important because civilian research and the Department's own data show that reports to police and other authorities underestimate the extent of sexual assault in the United States civilian and military populations, including cadets and midshipmen at the MSAs. As such, this section provides the following topline 2024 academy survey results:

1. Estimated Prevalence of USC in APY 23-24
2. Estimated Prevalence of USC by MSA
3. USC Risk Factors
4. Estimated Prevalence of Sexual Harassment in APY 23-24
5. Estimated Prevalence of Sexual Harassment by MSA
6. Estimated Prevalence of Sex Discrimination in APY 23-24
7. Estimated Prevalence of Sex Discrimination by MSA

Topline 2024 Academy Survey Results

1. Estimated Prevalence of USC in APY 23-24

The 2024 academy survey found that an estimated 13.3 percent of academy women and an estimated 3.6 percent of academy men experienced USC during AY 23-24 compared to an estimated 21.4 percent of academy women and an estimated 4.4 percent of academy men in 2022. These estimated rates reflect a statistically significant decrease for both academy men and women and were driven by decreases for academy women across all three Academies and academy men from USMA and USAFA. Although the estimated rates of USC appeared lower, they were statistically unchanged for USNA men.

Despite the estimated decrease in prevalence since 2022, the estimated number of cadets and midshipmen experiencing USC remains unacceptably high. In 2024, the Department estimates that 327 academy men and 457 academy women (a total of 783 cadets/midshipmen, down from a total of 1,136 in APY 21-22) experienced some form of USC during the APY.⁸ While these estimates are significantly lower than in 2022, the total number of cadets and midshipmen affected by sexual violence remains among one of the highest seen in recent years. Prevalence estimates for academy men and women are also higher than comparably aged Service members in the active duty force.⁹

Estimated Prevalence of USC by Type of Offense

⁸ The estimate of 783 cadets/midshipmen experiencing some form of USC in 2024 is due to rounding.

⁹ See OPA's 2023 *Workplace Gender Relations Survey of Military Members: Overview Report*. Regarding the naming of this survey, prior to 2025, OPA research products used the term "gender" to describe men and women. These groups were defined using survey items and/or administrative data categories for "male" and "female;" therefore, references to gender should be understood to mean "sex."

The 2024 academy survey found that the past-year prevalence estimates by types of USC reflect a statistically significant decrease since 2022 for both academy men and women and were driven by decreases in all types of USC for women and completed and attempted penetration for men.

For academy women, an estimated 4.7 percent experienced unwanted sexual touching (a statistically significant decrease from an estimated 6.9 percent in 2022); an estimated 3.9 percent experienced attempted penetration (a statistically significant decrease from an estimated 7.6 percent in 2022); and an estimated 4.7 percent experienced completed penetration (a statistically significant decrease from an estimated 6.8 percent in 2022).

For academy men, the estimated rate of unwanted sexual touching remained statistically unchanged from 2022 but trended downward from an estimated 2.4 percent in 2022 to an estimated 2.2 percent in 2024. An estimated 0.8 percent experienced attempted penetration (a statistically significant decrease from an estimated 1.0 percent in 2022) and an estimated 0.6 percent experienced completed penetration (a statistically significant decrease from an estimated 1.0 percent in 2022).

Estimated Prevalence of USC by Class Year

While the estimated rates of USC significantly decreased for academy women across all class years, the estimated rates were highest for sophomores (an estimated 16.6 percent) and juniors (an estimated 16.7 percent). While the estimated rates of USC significantly decreased for sophomore and junior men, the estimated rates were highest among sophomore (an estimated 4.3 percent) and senior (an estimated 4.2 percent) men.

2. Estimated Prevalence of USC by MSA

USMA

Estimated Prevalence of USC by Type of Offense

For USMA women, the 2024 academy survey found that an estimated 13.1 percent experienced USC, which reflects a statistically significant decrease compared to an estimated 18.2 percent in 2022. The estimated lower rate of USC was driven by statistically significant decreases in attempted penetration (an estimated 6.5 percent in 2022 versus an estimated 3.2 percent in 2024) and completed penetration (an estimated 5.5 percent in 2022 versus an estimated 3.7 percent in 2024). The estimated rate of unwanted sexual touching remained statistically unchanged, although trended slightly upward from an estimated 6.2 percent in 2022 to an estimated 6.3 percent in 2024.

For USMA men, the 2024 academy survey found that an estimated 3.6 percent experienced USC, which reflects a statistically significant decrease compared to an estimated 4.2 percent in 2022. There were statistically significant decreases in attempted penetration (an estimated 0.8 percent in 2022 versus an estimated 0.5 percent in 2024) and in completed penetration (an estimated 1.0 percent in 2022 to an estimated 0.4 percent in 2024). The estimated rate of unwanted sexual touching remained statistically unchanged, although trended upward from an estimated 2.4 percent in 2022 to an estimated 2.7 percent in 2024.

Estimated Prevalence of USC by Class Year

For USMA women, there was a statistically significant decrease since 2022 in the estimated prevalence rate of USC among freshmen, sophomores, and seniors. An estimated 10.3 percent of freshmen (down from an estimated 14.5 percent in 2022); an estimated 13.9 percent of sophomores (down from an estimated 22.5 percent in 2022); and an estimated 11.0 percent of seniors (down from an estimated 17.8 percent in 2022) experienced USC in 2024. Although the estimated prevalence rate of USC remained statistically unchanged for juniors (an estimated 18.1 percent in 2022 versus an estimated 16.1 percent), they were most at risk for experiencing USC.

For USMA men, there was a statistically significant decrease in the estimated prevalence rate of USC among sophomores, down from an estimated 5.2 percent in 2022 to an estimated 3.7 percent in 2024. The estimated prevalence rate of USC among freshmen and juniors remained statistically unchanged, although trended downward, while the estimated prevalence rate of USC among seniors also remained statistically unchanged yet trended upward. Seniors were most at risk for experiencing USC.

Overall, the estimated prevalence rates of USC provided above, and broken down by type of offense and class year, suggest that an estimated 249 male and female cadets experienced some form of USC in the past APY, down from an estimated 329 in 2022.

USNA

Estimated Prevalence of USC by Type of Offense

For USNA women, the 2024 academy survey found that an estimated 13.4 percent experienced USC, which reflects a statistically significant decrease from an estimated 23.1 percent in 2022. The decrease was driven by statistically significant decreases in all types of offenses. An estimated 4.6 percent of women experienced unwanted sexual touching (down from an estimated 8.1 percent in 2022); an estimated 3.9 percent experienced attempted penetration (down from an estimated 7.6 percent in 2022); and an estimated 4.9 percent experienced completed penetration (down from an estimated 7.4 percent in 2022).

For USNA men, the 2024 academy survey found that the past-year prevalence estimate of USC remained statistically unchanged, although trended downward from an estimated 4.6 percent in 2022 to an estimated 4.1 percent in 2024. There was a statistically significant decrease in unwanted sexual touching, down from an estimated 2.6 percent in 2022 to an estimated 2.1 percent in 2024, while the estimated rates of attempted and completed penetration remained statistically unchanged since 2022.

Estimated Prevalence of USC by Class Year

For USNA women, there was a statistically significant decrease in the estimated prevalence rate of USC across all class years with sophomores and juniors most at risk for experiencing USC. An estimated 6.0 percent of freshmen, an estimated 16.7 percent of sophomores, an estimated 20.1 percent of juniors, and an estimated 12.5 percent of seniors (compared to an estimated 13.3 percent, 29.8 percent, 24.5 percent, and 25.0 percent in 2022) experienced USC in 2024.

For USNA men, there was a statistically significant decrease in the estimated prevalence rate of USC among juniors (an estimated 6.7 percent in 2022 versus an estimated 3.9 percent in 2024)

and seniors (an estimated 4.5 percent in 2022 versus an estimated 3.5 percent in 2024). The estimated prevalence rate of USC remained statistically unchanged, although trended upward, for freshmen and sophomores. Although the estimated prevalence rate of USC remained statistically unchanged for sophomores, they were most at risk for experiencing USC.

Overall, the estimated prevalence rates of USC provided above, and broken down by type of offense and class year, suggest that an estimated 295 male and female midshipmen experienced some form of USC in the past APY, down from an estimated 428 in 2022.

USAFA

Estimated Prevalence of USC by Type of Offense

For USAFA women, the 2024 academy survey found that an estimated 13.4 percent experienced USC in the past year, a statistically significant decrease from an estimated 22.3 percent in 2022. Among USAFA women, there was a statistically significant decrease in the estimated rates across all types of offenses. An estimated 3.6 percent experienced unwanted sexual touching (compared to an estimated 6.4 percent in 2022), while an estimated 4.6 percent and an estimated 5.2 percent experienced attempted and completed penetration (compared to an estimated 8.7 percent and an estimated 7.2 percent in 2022).

For USAFA men, the 2024 academy survey found that an estimated 2.9 percent experienced USC in the past year, a statistically significant decrease from an estimated 4.3 percent in 2022. Among men, completed penetration was the only type of offense to have observed a statistically significant decrease, down from an estimated 1.0 percent in 2022 to an estimated 0.5 percent in 2024. The estimated rates of unwanted sexual touching and attempted penetration remained statistically unchanged since 2022, although these rates trended downward.

Estimated Prevalence of USC by Class Year

For USAFA women, the 2024 academy survey found that sophomores, juniors, and seniors experienced statistically significant decreases in the estimated prevalence rates of USC since 2022, with sophomores most at risk for experiencing USC. An estimated 18.5 percent of sophomores (down from an estimated 30.0 percent), an estimated 13.5 percent of juniors (down from an estimated 25.2 percent), and an estimated 11.3 percent of seniors (down from estimated 20.5 percent) experienced USC in 2024.

For USAFA men, the 2024 academy survey found that an estimated 1.8 percent of freshmen and an estimated 2.9 percent of sophomores experienced USC, statistically significant decreases compared to an estimated 3.6 percent and 5.4 percent in 2022. Seniors, however, were the most at risk for experiencing USC.

Overall, the estimated prevalence rates of USC provided above, and broken down by type of offense and class year, suggest that an estimated 240 male and female cadets experienced some form of USC in the past APY, down from an estimated 380 in 2022.

3. USC Risk Factors

Sexual Minorities More at Risk for Experiencing USC

In 2024, sexual minorities (respondents who identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual, or marked “I used a different term” on the 2024 academy survey) were significantly more likely to experience

USC than their heterosexual peers, despite decreases in experiencing USC since 2022. An estimated 14.5 percent of sexual minority academy men and women experienced USC (a statistically significant decrease from an estimated 21.3 percent in 2022). This contrasts with an estimated 5.5 percent of heterosexual academy men and women who experienced USC in 2024 (a statistically significant decrease from an estimated 7.9 percent in 2022). Additionally, an estimated 16.5 percent of academy women identifying as a sexual minority experienced USC in 2024 (a statistically significant decrease from an estimated 25.2 percent in 2022). This contrasts with an estimated 12.2 percent of heterosexual women (a statistically significant decrease from an estimated 20.2 percent in 2022) who experienced USC in 2024.

Experiences of USC Prior to Academy Entry and Sexual Harassment Prevalence Decreased but Remain Important Risk Factors for Revictimization

It is well-established that a prior sexual assault experience elevates risk for experiencing USC in the future. Compared to 2022, the 2024 academy survey found that fewer academy men and women indicated experiencing USC prior to entering the Academies (an estimated 7.9 percent for men and estimated 28.9 percent for women). However, a prior USC experience continues to be highly associated with risk for revictimization. Men and women, who indicate experiencing USC prior to entry, experienced USC at higher rates compared with their counterparts who did not have such an incident in their background.

Compared to 2022, significantly fewer women and men indicated experiencing sexual harassment at the Academies in 2024. However, experiencing sexual harassment was significantly associated with increased risk for experiencing USC for both academy women and men.

These findings underscore the need to sustain focus on appropriate resources, support, and an environment that does not exacerbate risk at the Academies for sexual assault and other harmful behaviors.

4. Estimated Prevalence of Sexual Harassment in APY 23-24

The 2024 academy survey found that an estimated 51 percent of academy women (1,707 cadets and midshipmen) and an estimated 17 percent of academy men (1,511 cadets and midshipmen) experienced sexual harassment, a statistically significant decrease from the estimated 63 percent for women and the estimated 20 percent for men in 2022.

5. Estimated Prevalence of Sexual Harassment by MSA

USMA

For USMA women, the 2024 academy survey found that there was a statistically significant decrease in the estimated rate of sexual harassment, down from an estimated 60 percent in 2022 to an estimated 54 percent in 2024. Across all class years, there was a statistically significant decrease in the estimated rate of sexual harassment, as compared to 2022.

For USMA men, the 2024 academy survey found that there was a statistically significant decrease in the estimated rate of sexual harassment, down from an estimated 19 percent in 2022 to an estimated 17 percent in 2024. Among freshmen, there was a statistically significant decrease in the estimated rate of sexual harassment, down from an estimated 20 percent in 2022 to an estimated 17 percent in 2024.

The Department estimates this represents about 509 women and 570 men experienced one or more incidents of sexual harassment at USMA.

USNA

For USNA women, the 2024 academy survey found that there was a statistically significant decrease in the estimated rate of sexual harassment, down from an estimated 67 percent in 2022 to an estimated 55 percent in 2024. Across all class years, there was a statistically significant decrease in the estimated rate of sexual harassment, as compared to 2022.

For USNA men, the 2024 academy survey found that there was a statistically significant decrease in the estimated rate of sexual harassment, down from an estimated 22 percent in 2022 to an estimated 20 percent in 2024. Among sophomores, there was a statistically significant increase in the estimated rate of sexual harassment, up from an estimated 21 percent in 2022 to an estimated 24 percent in 2024. However, among juniors and seniors, there was a statistically significant decrease in the estimated rate of sexual harassment, down from an estimated 28 percent in 2022 to an estimated 21 percent in 2024 for juniors and an estimated 21 percent in 2022 to an estimated 15 percent in 2024 for seniors. The estimated rate of sexual harassment among freshmen remained consistent since 2022 at an estimated 20 percent.

The Department estimates this represents about 677 women and 593 men who experienced one or more incidents of sexual harassment at USNA.

USAFA

For USAFA women, the estimated rate for sexual harassment statistically decreased from an estimated 60 percent in 2022 to an estimated 45 percent in 2024. The estimated rate of sexual harassment statistically decreased among women across all class years in 2024, as compared to 2022.

For USAFA men, there was a statistically significant decrease in the estimated rate of sexual harassment, down from an estimated 19 percent in 2022 to an estimated 13 percent in 2024. Sexual harassment rates statistically decreased among men across all class years in 2024, as compared to 2022.

The Department estimates this represents about 522 women and 349 men who experienced one or more incidents of sexual harassment at USAFA.

6. Estimated Prevalence of Sex Discrimination in APY 23-24

Compared to 2022, the prevalence estimates for sex discrimination were significantly lower for academy men and women overall and at each Academy. In 2024, an estimated 25 percent of academy women (862 cadets and midshipmen) and an estimated four percent of academy men (367 cadets and midshipmen) experienced sex discrimination. This contrasts with an estimated 33 percent of academy women and an estimated five percent of academy men who indicated experiencing sex discrimination in 2022.

7. Estimated Prevalence of Sex Discrimination by MSA

At USMA, an estimated 32 percent of academy women and an estimated three percent of academy men experienced sex discrimination in 2024. At USNA, an estimated 26 percent of

academy women and an estimated four percent of academy men experienced sex discrimination in 2024. At USAFA, an estimated 19 percent of academy women and an estimated four percent of academy men experienced sex discrimination in 2024.

Enhancing the Academy Environment

This section summarizes relevant 2024 academy survey results as well as DoD efforts related to enhancing the academy environment.

Topline 2024 Academy Survey Results

USC Incident Characteristics Consistent with 2022 Findings

Incident characteristics can inform and refine actions underway to address climate and further prevent harmful behaviors. The 2024 academy survey found that characteristics of USC incidents were consistent with prior years. Women indicated that the vast majority of alleged offenders were men. Men alleged that their experiences were perpetrated by women, men, and sometimes by men and women acting together. Cadets and midshipmen also indicated that alleged offenders were mainly individuals they knew from class or another activity, and persons in their same class year. Across the MSAs, alleged USC incidents occurred both off and on academy grounds (i.e., in a dorm or living area) and most often at times when cadets and midshipmen were less supervised (i.e., after duty hours and on weekends or holidays).

Excessive Alcohol Use Significantly Decreased among MSA Men and Women and was a Distinguishing Feature in More Serious USC Incidents

In 2024, there was a significant decrease in binge drinking and alcohol-induced amnesia for both academy men and women. An estimated 30 percent of academy women (a statistically significant decrease from an estimated 35 percent in 2022) and an estimated 36 percent of academy men (a statistically significant decrease from an estimated 41 percent) reported one or more binge drinking occasions. An estimated 18 percent of academy women (a statistically significant decrease from an estimated 23 percent in 2022) and an estimated 17 percent of academy men (a statistically significant decrease from an estimated 22 percent in 2022) reported having been unable to remember what happened the night before due to drinking. Decreases in alcohol consumption likely contribute to reductions risk. Prevention approaches that target alcohol use as well as other risk factors will help sustain change.

According to the 2024 academy survey, an estimated 46 percent of USC events involved alcohol use by either the victim and/or alleged offender, a statistically significant decrease from an estimated 60 percent in 2022.¹⁰ Alcohol use was associated with more severe USC, such as completed or attempted penetration, both of which significantly declined in prevalence for both academy women and men in 2024.

Below are academy-specific 2024 academy survey results on alcohol use.

¹⁰ References to alcohol use by the victim are not intended to suggest the victim is to blame for the unwanted sexual contact. Instead, the information provides important context regarding USC incidents to better inform interventions to prevent violent and harmful behaviors.

USMA

In 2024, there were statistically significant decreases since 2022 in binge drinking and alcohol-induced amnesia for both male and female cadets. An estimated 18 percent of cadets (down from an estimated 23 percent in 2022) reported alcohol-induced amnesia. An estimated 27 percent of female cadets (down from an estimated 33 percent in 2022) and an estimated 36 percent of male cadets (significantly down from an estimated 39 percent in 2022) reported one or more binge drinking occasions.

USNA

Compared to 2022, in 2024, fewer midshipmen experienced alcohol-induced amnesia and fewer indicated they had one or more binge drinking occasions. An estimated 21 percent of female midshipmen (a statistically significant decrease from an estimated 27 percent in 2022) and an estimated 17 percent of male midshipmen (a statistically significant decrease from an estimated 26 percent in 2022) experienced alcohol-induced amnesia. An estimated 34 percent of female midshipmen (a statistically significant decrease from an estimated 41 percent in 2022) and an estimated 39 percent of male midshipmen (a statistically significant decrease from an estimated 49 percent in 2022) engaged in one or more binge drinking occasions.

USAFA

In 2024, typical drinking behaviors remained statistically unchanged for female cadets since 2022; however, among male cadets, there was a statistically significant increase in drinking five or more alcoholic drinks in a typical day of drinking, up from an estimated 17 percent in 2022 to an estimated 20 percent in 2024. There was a statistically significant decrease in binge drinking (down from an estimated 37 percent in 2022 to an estimated 34 percent in 2024) among male cadets. An estimated 15 percent of cadets reported alcohol-induced amnesia, a statistically significant decrease from an estimated 18 percent in 2022 for female cadets and a statistically significant decrease from an estimated 17 percent in 2022 for male cadets.

Perceptions of Trust in MSA Leadership and Efforts by Academy Personnel to Prevent Sexual Violence Demonstrate Early Progress Made Toward Improving MSA Climates

Academy men and women indicated having greater levels of trust in the Academies to protect their privacy, ensure their safety following an incident of alleged sexual assault, and treat them with dignity and respect than in 2022, although women remain much less trusting than men. These data indicate modest but important improvements in perceptions of trust with regard to the Academies protecting the privacy of cadets and midshipmen, ensuring their safety, and treating them with dignity and respect were they to experience sexual assault.

The 2024 academy survey indicated that cadet and midshipman perceptions of academy leadership efforts to stop sexual assault and sexual harassment significantly increased since 2022 for academy men and women. Cadets and midshipmen were more confident that academy senior leadership, faculty, staff, and cadet/midshipman leadership were making honest and reasonable efforts to stop sexual assault and sexual harassment. These favorable

student perceptions are suggestive of a community-level effort that is observable to cadets and midshipmen.

Department Efforts to Enhance the Academy Environment

MSA Climate Transformation Task Force (CTTF)

In August 2023, the then-Secretary of Defense released the memorandum, “Actions to Transform the Climate and Help Prevent Harmful Behaviors at the U.S. Military Service Academies,” directing the MSAs to take transformational actions to reverse recent upward trends of numerous harmful behaviors, to include sexual assault and sexual harassment at the MSAs. One of these actions directed the formation of the MSA CTTF, composed of senior military and civilian personnel from each Military Department (MILDEP) and MSA in addition to other members of DoD leadership, to enhance cooperation on improving climate and integrated prevention efforts at the MSAs. The establishment of the CTTF is a vital component in reshaping the academy environment and addressing the root causes of sexual violence. The leadership provided by the MILDEPs to transform command climate and enhance integrated prevention at the MSAs will be crucial to achieving long-lasting change.

As of September 3, 2024, the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness (OUSD(P&R)) conducted four CTTF Executive Council (EC) meetings, 21 CTTF Steering Committee (SC) meetings, and numerous informal engagements to support the MILDEPs in their CTTF activities. The CTTF serves as a mechanism to provide feedback to the MILDEPs and DoD leadership on developing, implementing, and evaluating plans of action to ensure best practices are adopted across the MSAs and provides oversight to achieve key milestones in a timely manner.

The CTTF EC, SC, MILDEPs, and MSAs continue to implement plans of action and milestones and remain committed to change at each MSA. Every six months, beginning on January 31, 2024, each MILDEP must provide a progress report detailing the status of their implementation. The latest progress reports were delivered to the then-Secretary of Defense in early August 2024 and indicate forward momentum and continued commitment on behalf of MILDEP leadership. All MSAs have implemented immediate actions, overcome significant hurdles, and remain engaged to executing long-term actions by August 1, 2025. In addition, the MSA CTTF is initiating a cross-MSA evaluation to determine impact of the changes.

While there are indications that the efforts are thwarting the negative trends in climate, to achieve successful implementation and long-term transformational change, this effort will require sustained effort and collaboration from the MILDEPs and MSAs. OUSD(P&R) crafted a strategic messaging framework to ensure a unified voice throughout the Department when discussing CTTF efforts. The Secretaries of the MILDEPs adapted the messaging framework and developed MILDEP-specific strategic communications plans to disseminate messaging to key audiences and various stakeholders.

Continued improvements likely will extend beyond full operational capability of August 2025. Organization goals should be developed to institutionalize actions to indoctrinate primary prevention into the MSAs.

Continued Work to Broaden Skills of MSA Leaders

In March 2023, the then-Secretary of Defense issued the memorandum, “Actions to Address and Prevent Sexual Assault at the Military Service Academies,” directing the MILDEPs to broaden the skills of MSA leaders to assess climate factors affecting their cadet/midshipman units. To meet this requirement, DoD’s Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Training and Education Center of Excellence continued to lead the working group established in May 2023 to revise academy officers’ (Tactical Officers [TACs], Air Officers Commanding [AOCs], and Company Officers [COs]) initial preparation and ongoing professional development to support integrated primary prevention and the climate assessment process. In January 2024, the working group finalized standardized learning outcomes and objectives for enhanced content within the respective MSA preparation programs. By May 2024, the MSAs had begun the initial delivery of the improved curriculum to the incoming cohorts of TACs, AOCs, and COs and their Non-Commissioned Officer counterparts.

Promoting a Quality Response

The following section summarizes this year’s sexual assault reporting and sexual harassment complaint data, policy updates, and MSA efforts to promote a quality response among cadets and midshipmen.

APY 23-24 Overall Reporting Data on Sexual Assault at the Academies

The Department seeks greater reporting of sexual assault to connect cadets and midshipmen with restorative care and to hold alleged offenders appropriately accountable. DoD tracks Restricted and Unrestricted Reports of sexual assault involving cadets, midshipmen, or preparatory school students as victims and/or subjects in allegations made during the APY.

In APY 23-24, the Department received a total of 126 sexual assault reports that involved cadets/midshipmen/prep students as victims and/or alleged offenders – a decrease of 40 reports from the previous APY (see Figure 1). Of these reports, 31 were from USMA, 53 were from USNA, and 42 were from USAFA.

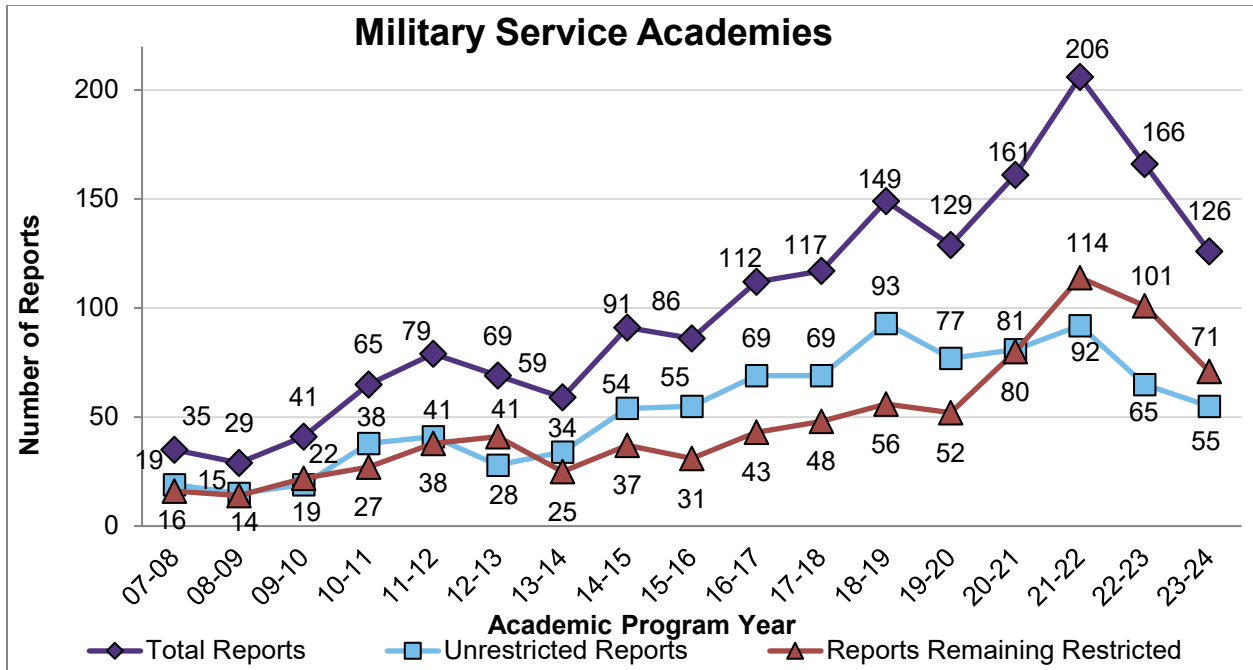


Figure 1. Reports of Sexual Assault by Report Type, APY 07-08 to 23-24

Department policy allows cadets and midshipmen to report sexual assaults and receive assistance, even when the reported incident occurred prior to entry into military service. In addition, DoD accounts for reports from non-cadets and midshipmen that allege a sexual assault committed by an academy student.

At the MSAs’ request, the Department has categorized the total number of reports received to reflect the MSAs’ current conditions. Of the 126 total reports received by the Department, 106 were made by/or against actively enrolled cadets and midshipmen for incidents that occurred during military service. This categorization narrows the focus to reports that involved actively enrolled cadets or midshipmen, including reports from:

- Currently enrolled cadets or midshipmen reporting an incident that occurred during their military service;
- Active duty Service members reporting an incident that occurred within four years of the date the incident was reported, either at a MSA or while they were a cadet or midshipman; or
- Civilians reporting an incident by an enrolled cadet or midshipman.

The remaining 20 reports come from:

- Currently enrolled cadets or midshipmen reporting an incident that occurred prior to military service;
- Active duty Service members or current civilians who did not report an academy-based sexual assault until they were no longer enrolled at the MSA, making a report for an incident that occurred more than four years from the date of the report; or
- Preparatory school students.

Table 1 provides the breakdown of the 126 total reports into these two overarching categories.

Table 1: Sexual Assault Reports by Victim Category and Military Status, APY 23-24

	Unrestricted Reports	Restricted Reports	Total Reports
All Academy-related Reports	55	71	126
• Reports involving actively enrolled cadets/midshipmen at the time of incident and/or report	50	56	106
– Cadet and midshipman victims reporting an incident that occurred during military service	48	55	103
– Active duty Service member victims reporting an incident that occurred within the last four years	0	1	1
– Civilian victims	2	0	2
• All other reports	5	15	20
– Cadets and midshipmen reporting an incident that occurred prior to military service	4	4	8
– Active duty Service members reporting an incident that occurred more than four years ago	0	5	5
– Preparatory school students	1	6	7

See Appendix D: Statistical Data on Sexual Assault and Sexual Harassment for more information on reporting data.

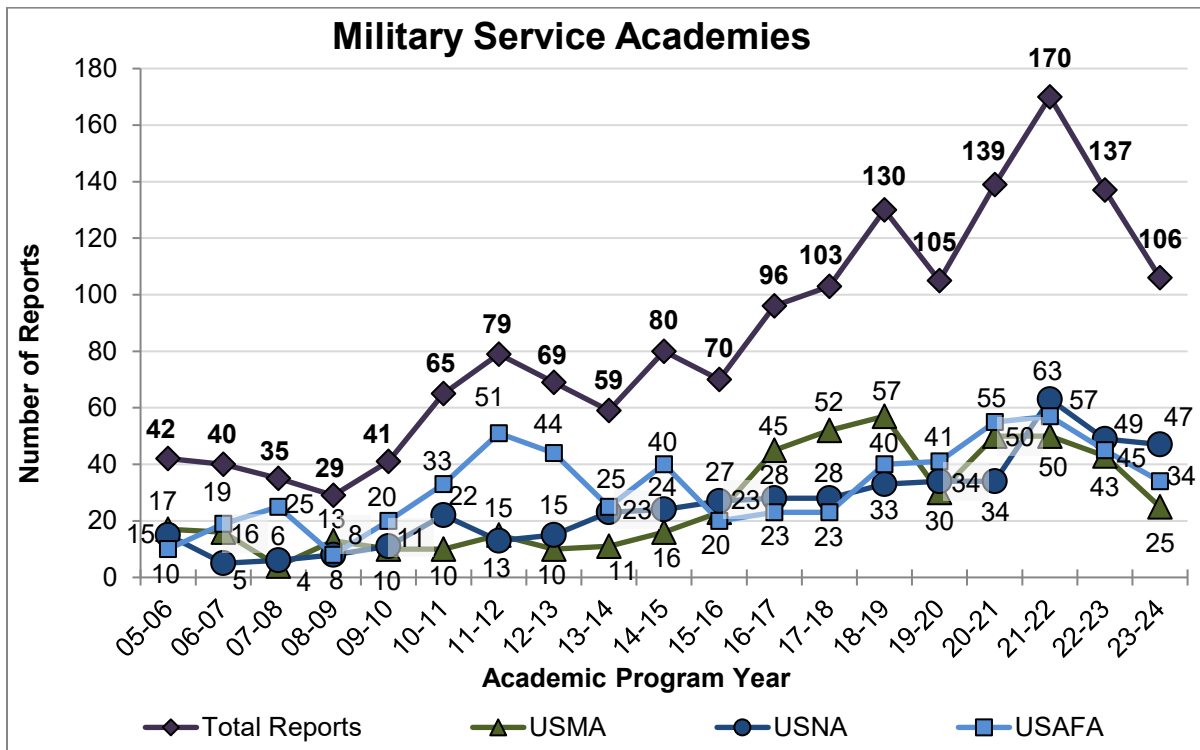


Figure 2. Reports by and/or against Academy Students Actively Enrolled at the Time of Report and Incident by Report Type, APY 07-08 to 23-24

Figure 2 illustrates the number of sexual assault reports in this category: reports made by and/or against academy students actively enrolled at the time of the report and incident. Compared to APY 22-23, the total number of sexual assault reports involving actively enrolled cadets or midshipmen made in APY 23-24 decreased by 31 reports.

Figure 2 also illustrates the number of sexual assault reports involving enrolled cadets and midshipmen by Academy. At USMA, 25 reports of sexual assault were made by and/or against actively enrolled cadets for an alleged incident that occurred during military service, representing a decrease of 18 reports since the previous APY. Of these 25 reports, 14 were Unrestricted, and 11 remained Restricted at the close of APY 23-24.

At USNA, 47 reports of sexual assault were made by and/or against actively enrolled midshipmen for an alleged incident occurring during military service, representing a decrease of two reports since the previous APY. Of these 47 reports, 30 were Unrestricted, and 17 remained Restricted at the close of APY 23-24.

At USAFA, 34 reports of sexual assault were made by and/or against actively enrolled cadets for an alleged incident occurring during military service, a decrease of 11 reports since previously measured. Of these 34 reports, six were Unrestricted, and 28 remained Restricted at the close of APY 23-24.

For more detailed statistical data from APY 23-24, and analysis of these data, see Appendices D and E.

APY 23-24 Sexual Assault Reports Made to the Family Advocacy Program (FAP)

FAP is the congressionally mandated program within DoD responsible for supplying clinical assessment, support, and treatment services in response to domestic abuse incidents. Sexual assault occurring within the context of a marriage or intimate partner relationship (sexual abuse) is a subset of domestic abuse. In December 2021, the Department expanded its intimate partner definition to include Service members in a dating relationship. Allegations of sexual abuse are referred to FAP for comprehensive safety planning for the victim, including victim advocacy and support. DoD FAP provides guidance to FAP personnel regarding reports of sexual assault.¹¹

Starting in APY 18-19, this annual report began including a section documenting cadet and midshipman reports to FAP to better understand all sexual assault cases reported by cadets and midshipmen. In APY 23-24, one report of sexual assault at USNA and four reports of sexual assault at USAFA were initially made to FAP. There were no reports of sexual assault made initially to FAP at USMA. The five reports at USNA and USAFA that were initially made to FAP are not included in the Table 2 above, reflecting the total number of reports made this APY.

¹¹ Department of Defense Instruction (DoDI) 6400.06, "DoD Coordinated Community Response to Domestic Abuse Involving DoD Military and Certain Affiliated Personnel," July 11, 2024.

APY 23-24 Overall Complaint Data on Sexual Harassment at the MSAs

In APY 23-24, cadets and midshipmen made three formal complaints, 14 informal complaints, and zero anonymous complaints of sexual harassment. As depicted in Figure 3 below, sexual harassment complaints at the Academies vary widely from year to year but remain low compared to academy survey estimates of sexual harassment. The Department recognizes these lower numbers may reflect underreporting and the normalization of sexual harassment in language and some behavior.

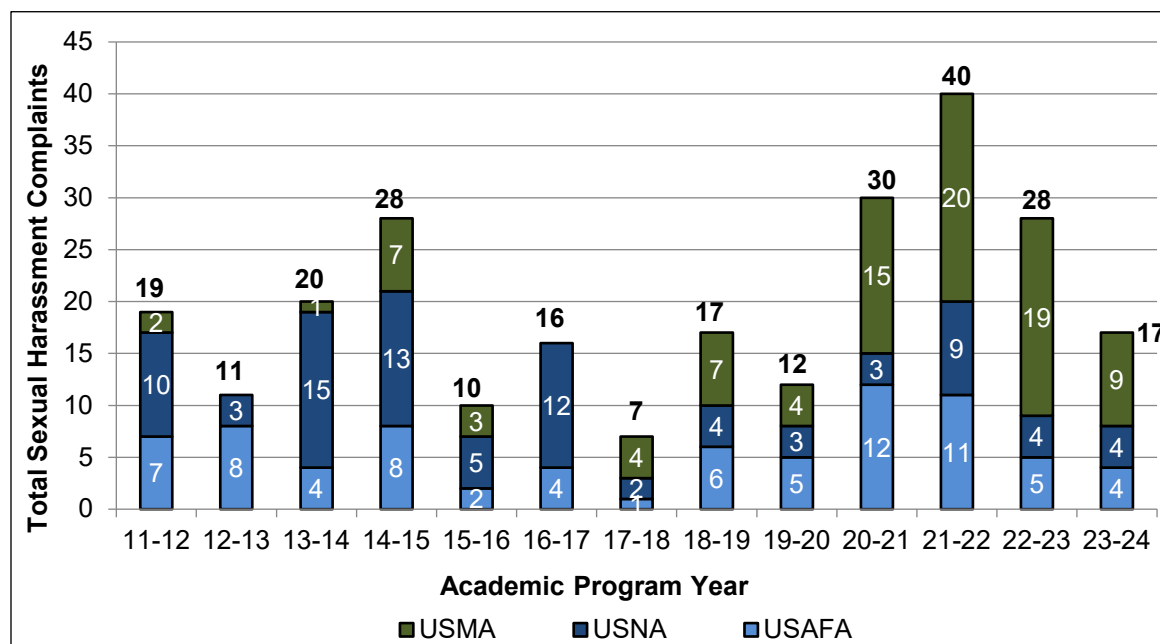


Figure 3. Total Sexual Harassment Complaints by Academy, APY 11-12 to 23-24

July 2024 Then-Deputy of Secretary of Defense (DSD) Memorandum

Only July, 19 2024, the then-DSD published the memorandum, “Updates to Department of Defense Policies to Enhance Support for Adult Sexual Assault Victims,” updating numerous sexual assault prevention and response policies, including sexual assault investigations, approval of the Sexual Assault Response Workforce model, the Safe to Report policy (incorporating the role of the Office of Special Trial Counsel), convalescent leave for Restricted Reporters, the CATCH program, and requiring the use of several forms. The DSD memorandum also authorized Restricted Reporting for DoD civilian employees and a Law Enforcement (LE) Victim Exception allowing LEs to disclose a sexual assault in a personal conversation without triggering an investigation.

CATCH Program Insights

The Department implemented the CATCH Program in August 2019 to provide individuals who have experienced sexual assault an opportunity to anonymously submit suspect information to help DoD identify serial offenders. Participation in the CATCH Program is voluntary and the victim may decline to participate in the program at any stage, even after being informed that there was a potential “match” to another entry in the CATCH system or to a law enforcement case. There are no adverse consequences for victims if they do not agree to participate or opt out of the CATCH Program after being contacted with information of a potential “match.” This

APY, 41 CATCH entries originated from the Academies, the same as the 41 entries made to the program in APY 22-23.

As indicated in the above section, changes to the CATCH Program included a new Defense Department CATCH form and expanded eligibility to the program (i.e., eligibility through CATCH SAPR Related Inquiries (SRI), SRI CATCH entry procedures, and printing CATCH entries).

MSA Safe to Report Policy

As required by section 539A of the NDAA for FY21, the MSAs' Safe to Report policies provide that victims making reports of sexual assault will not be punished for minor instances of collateral misconduct associated with their alleged incident (i.e., being "off limits" or intoxicated at the time of the alleged incident).

The February 2022 memorandum, "Actions to Address and Prevent Sexual Assault at the Military Service Academies," issued by the then-Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness (USD(P&R)), required the MSAs to track cases of cadets and midshipmen who report under the Department's Safe to Report policy as outlined by section 539A of the NDAA for FY21. Since then, the MSAs have been tracking cases of cadets and midshipmen who cite the Safe to Report policy influenced their decision to report. In APY 23-24, there was one instance at USMA, two at USNA, and ten at USAFA where the victim cited that the Safe to Report policy influenced their decision to report.

MSA Policy on Physical Separation of Cadet and Midshipman Survivors of Sexual Assault and Alleged Offenders

As required by section 539 of the NDAA for FY21, the MSAs' policies on physical separation of cadet and midshipman survivors of sexual assault and alleged offenders allow, to the extent practicable, cadet and midshipman survivors and alleged offenders of sexual assault to complete their coursework without taking classes together or being in close, physical proximity during mandatory activities. The APY 22-23 MSA Report found that USAFA's policy met the requirements, while the USMA and USNA policies needed revisions. This year, DoD's assessment found the USMA policy and USNA draft policy met the requirements.

MSA Return to Health Policy

As required by the March 2023 memorandum, "Actions to Address and Prevent Sexual Assault at the Military Service Academies," issued by the then-Secretary of Defense, the MSAs' Return to Health policies formally delineate a process for supporting cadet and midshipman psychological and physical recovery following a sexual assault. The process enables cadets and midshipmen to better balance their continued academic, character, and physical development requirements with access to support services and engagement in recovery. Last year's APY 22-23 MSA Report found that USAFA's policy met the requirements, while the USMA and USNA policies needed revisions. This year, DoD's assessment found that the USMA policy and USNA draft policy met the requirements.

Way Forward

The Department is cautiously optimistic about this year's significant decrease in the estimated prevalence of USC and sexual harassment among cadets and midshipmen. However, the

Academies must sustain progress by continuing implementation of the transformational changes currently underway, including the CTTF's work to reshape the academy environment and address the root causes of sexual assault and sexual harassment. This year's reduction in prevalence is encouraging, but also a reminder of the continuous work and leadership focus needed to foster a healthier environment for our Nation's future warfighters and to ensure lasting change at the Academies.