



Appendix G: Domestic Abuse-Related Sexual Assault



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The Family Advocacy Program (FAP) is the Congressionally-mandated Department of War (DoW) program responsible for providing clinical assessment, support, and treatment services in response to reported allegations of child abuse and neglect, and domestic abuse in military families. Sexual assault occurring within the context of a marriage or intimate partner relationship (sexual abuse) is a subset of domestic abuse.

Oversight Responsibilities

Under the authority, direction, and control of the Under Secretary of War for Personnel and Readiness, DoW FAP has broad responsibility for promoting public awareness and prevention of domestic abuse, providing certain victims of domestic abuse with the option for making a Restricted Report, and coordinating comprehensive advocacy, clinical intervention, safety and risk assessment, and other support to victims.

Definition of Domestic Abuse

Defense Department Instruction (DoDI) 6400.06, “DoD Coordinated Community Response to Domestic Abuse Involving DoD Military and Certain Affiliated Personnel,” incorporating Change 4, August 29, 2025, defines domestic abuse as an offense under the U.S.C., the UCMJ, or State or local law involving the use, attempted use, or threatened use of force or violence against a person, or a violation of a lawful order issued for the protection of a person who is a:

- Current or former spouse;
- Person with whom the alleged abuser shares a child in common;
- Current or former intimate partner with whom the alleged abuser shares or has shared a common domicile; or
- Person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the accused and determined to be an intimate partner (as defined in DoDI 6400.06).

This may include offenses as defined in section 928b of title 10, U.S.C.

Sexual assault occurring within the context of domestic abuse is referred to FAP for comprehensive safety planning, victim advocacy and support, and treatment when appropriate.

Data

This Appendix only summarizes data on sexual abuse that occurs within the context of domestic abuse. The Department anticipates releasing its comprehensive data and analysis of all domestic abuse, as required by section 574 of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2017 (Public Law 114-328), as amended by section 549 of the NDAA for FY 2022 (Public Law 117-81), in July 2026.

Data Collection

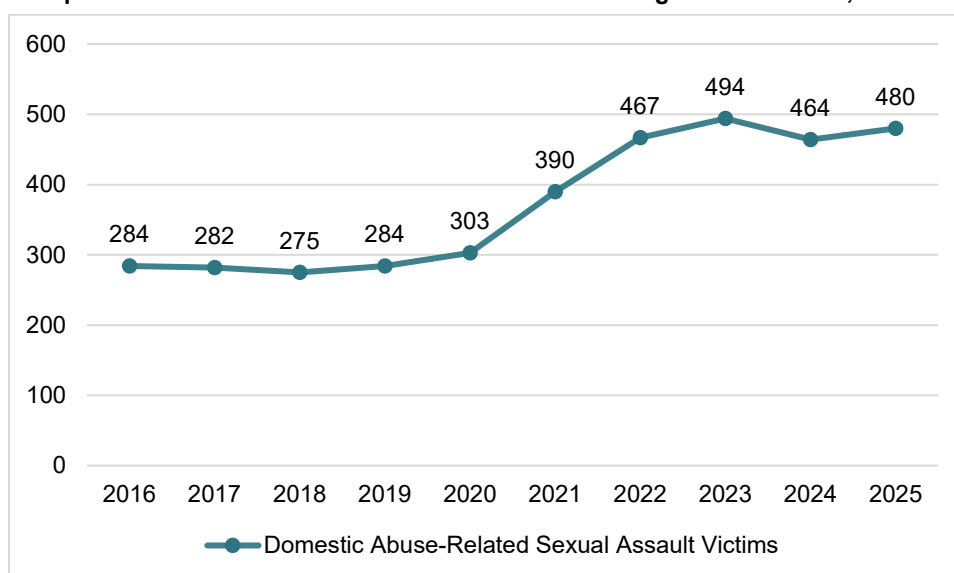
FAP incident data are tracked by the Military Departments and reported to the Department through the FAP Central Registry maintained by the Defense Manpower Data Center. The FAP Central Registry contains information pertaining to reported allegations that were determined to

meet DoW policy criteria for abuse.¹ Allegations are assessed with a standardized algorithm that evaluates the need for more rigorous treatment, intervention, support, safety planning, and protection.

Victim Characteristics

Figure 1 shows the number of unique victims from domestic abuse incidents involving adult sexual assault who received FAP services since FY 2016.² FAP Central Registry data reveal that in FY 2025, there were 480 unique victims from domestic abuse reports alleging sexual assault who received FAP services. Following a relatively consistent rate of unique victims from FY 2016 to FY 2019, the number of victims of domestic abuse reports involving sexual assault allegations increased from FY 2019 to FY 2023, with notable year-over-year increases from FY 2020 to FY 2023. Though the number of unique victims decreased in FY 2024, the number of victims increased slightly from FY 2024 to FY 2025 though it was still lower than FY 2023.³

Figure 1. Unique Victims from Domestic Abuse Incidents Involving Sexual Assault, FY 2016 – FY 2025



Of the 480 victims, 449 (93.5 percent) were female and 31 (6.5 percent) were male. Of the 480 victims, 231 (48.1 percent) were family members, 180 (37.5 percent) were military Service members, 63 (13.1 percent) were non-beneficiaries of DoW health services, and 6 (1.3 percent) were civilian non-DoW beneficiaries (e.g., retired Service members or government contractors).

¹ DoD Manual 6400.01, Volume 3, “Family Advocacy Program (FAP): Clinical Case Staff Meeting (CCSM) and Incident Determination Committee (IDC),” August 11, 2016, as amended.

² In accordance with section 538 of the NDAA for FY 2018 (Public Law 115-91), domestic abuse reports involving allegations of sexual assault are included in the DoW Annual Report on Sexual Assault in the Military as an appendix to the report.

³ In FY 2022, the Department reissued policy expanding the definition of domestic abuse to include those in dating relationships. This means that newly eligible victims of reports of domestic abuse involving sexual assault allegations are now eligible to receive support, advocacy, and care that FAP provides.

Alleged Offender Characteristics

There were 471 alleged offenders from reports of domestic abuse involving sexual assault, of whom 435 (92.4 percent) were male and 36 (7.6 percent) were female. Of the 471 alleged offenders, 403 (85.6 percent) were military Service members, 47 (10.0 percent) were family members, and 10 (2.1 percent) were civilian non-DoW beneficiaries (retired Service members or government contractors).

Of the 403 alleged offenders who were military Service members, 394 (97.8 percent) were active duty, and nine (2.2 percent) were members of the Reserves or National Guard. Of the 394 military Service members, 367 (93.1 percent) were enlisted members, 29 (7.4 percent) were officers, and 7 (1.8 percent) were warrant officers.

Restricted Reports

Victims have the option to submit Restricted Reports of sexual assault occurring in the context of domestic abuse, granting them privacy and autonomy while allowing them to receive FAP services. Restricted Reporting is only available to victims who are eligible to receive medical services from DoW and is not available to child abuse victims. Neither military command nor law enforcement are notified of Restricted Reports, but if a report is converted to Unrestricted, the relevant chain of command will be notified and a criminal investigation initiated.⁴

The Military Services collect and report program metric data, as required by Section 581 of the NDAA for FY 2008 (Public Law 110-181), including Restricted Reports of domestic abuse allegations involving sexual assault. In FY 2025, Military Service FAPs received a total 1,696 Restricted Reports of domestic abuse. Of those 1,696, 324 (19.1 percent) involved sexual assault allegations.

Accountability

The mission and scope of FAP is to provide comprehensive clinical assessment and support services to individuals and families impacted by domestic abuse and child abuse and neglect. FAP's primary focus is to assess the risk to, and safety of, victims and families; provide support and clinical services for the victim; and to provide treatment and rehabilitation of the alleged offender, when appropriate. In accordance with the responsibilities set forth in DoD Manual 6400.01, Volume 1, "Family Advocacy Program (FAP): FAP Standards," FAP reports all Unrestricted Reports of domestic abuse to law enforcement within 24 hours. As part of the Coordinated Community Response model employed by DoW, first responder law enforcement (military or civilian) and military criminal investigative personnel have responsibility for investigating reports of alleged domestic abuse. Investigation, command action, and legal adjudication, as appropriate, are addressed by other organizations outside of FAP.

FAP social workers, prevention specialists, victim advocates, and nurses provide critical clinical and support services to families impacted by domestic abuse and seek to promote the well-being of victims and to support their self-determination.

⁴ DoDI 6400.06, December 15, 2021, "DoW Coordinated Community Response to Domestic Abuse Involving DoW Military and Certain Affiliated Personnel," August 29, 2025, as amended.