



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION AND RESPONSE OFFICE



AUGUST 31, 2018 UPDATE: RAND MILITARY WORKPLACE STUDY

Estimates for Installation- and Command-Level Risk of Sexual Assault and Sexual Harassment

Background: In January 2014, the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office selected The RAND Corporation to update the Department's survey approach for sexual assault, sexual harassment, and gender discrimination within the U.S. military. In the summer of 2014, RAND fielded a survey as part of the *RAND Military Workplace Study (RMWS)*. Since that time, the Department has commissioned a number of follow-on studies using the 2014 *RMWS* results to enhance sexual assault prevention and response in the military. To inform the public and Congress – and provide actionable resources to military leaders and Service members – SAPRO routinely provides links to final studies, reports, and other resources on its website at: <http://www.sapr.mil/>

Project Description: *RMWS Volume 5 Estimates for Installation- and Command-Level Risk of Sexual Assault and Sexual Harassment* employs 2014 survey data to estimate risk of sexual assault and sexual harassment across U.S. military installations, ships, and major commands. (Prior *RMWS* Volumes contained the 2014 survey results and additional follow-on analyses.)

Current Status: The Department is distributing the study's results to installations and commands worldwide. Executive Branch agency coordination is currently in progress.

Additional Background on Study Methodology

RAND produced estimations of risk rates of sexual assault and sexual harassment at the installation- and command-level by using a combination of survey and administrative data collected in 2014. RAND first estimated risk based on individual Service members characteristics, such as sex, age, and paygrade, at each location. This estimation accounted for population differences between installations and commands.

The remaining risk, referenced in the study as installation-specific risk, is a descriptive term. The term refers to the portion of risk not explained by individual characteristics. Installation-specific risk does not mean an installation or command is causing or preventing sexual assault.

The installation sexual assault risk estimates do not document where an actual sexual assault occurred. Rather, the sexual assault experiences endorsed on scientific surveys used to construct the risk estimates could have occurred anywhere, including while the member was deployed, on leave out of the area, or off of the installation in the local community. Additionally, all sexual assault experiences of members assigned to a particular installation or major command are counted, regardless of whether the alleged perpetrator was civilian or military, or whether the alleged perpetrator was assigned to the same installation or major command as the victim.