

FACT SHEET: FISCAL YEAR 2022 (FY22) DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE (DOD) ANNUAL REPORT ON SEXUAL ASSAULT IN THE MILITARY

APRIL 27, 2023

Background:

- Congress requires the DoD to submit an annual report on sexual assaults involving members of the Armed Forces.
- The Fiscal Year 2022 Annual Report on Sexual Assault in the Military provides an update on Department of Defense efforts to eliminate sexual assault and sexual harassment in the military; includes sexual assault reporting data; and summarizes the implementation of Sexual Assault Prevention and Response initiatives and recommendations of the Independent Review Commission on Sexual Assault in the Military (IRC), as approved by the Secretary of Defense. The report covers Fiscal Year 2022 (October 1, 2021, to September 30, 2022).
- This year's report does not include a prevalence survey, i.e., an estimate of how many Service members may have experienced the crime of sexual assault in a given year.

Top Line Results:

- The Department received a total of 8,942 reports of sexual assault in FY22, which is an increase of 76 reports over the 8,866 received in Fiscal Year 2021. Of the 8,942 reports of sexual assault, 5,941 were Unrestricted Reports and 3,001 were Restricted Reports at the end of the year.
- The Department continued implementation of key Secretary of Defense Sexual Assault Prevention and Response initiatives and the 82 approved recommendations of the IRC made to the Department of Defense.

Way Forward:

- On December 20, 2022, the Department published a new Integrated Primary Prevention Policy, implementing key recommendations from the IRC as approved by the Secretary of Defense. This policy establishes an Integrated Primary Prevention Workforce that will work with leaders to identify and overcome the barriers to readiness faced by our people. This new policy also equips leaders with the knowledge and skills they need to apply prevention principles in the field. As the Department gains momentum, these efforts will help fundamentally improve the military's ability to cultivate healthy command climates and stop harmful behaviors before they occur.
- The Department initiated its second round of On-Site Installation Evaluations in 2023 to address emerging, problematic climates and identify prevention best practices.
- Employing the Defense Organizational Climate Survey and taking action to address risk to Service members within their units.
 - Data from this assessment will be used to inform the Department's actions, as applicable.
- The Department will continue its ongoing efforts to ready the Military Departments' Offices of Special Trial Counsel (OSTCs) to take over prosecutorial decisions for covered offenses in December 2023.
- Improve the sexual assault response workforce.