

OFFICE FOR VICTIMS OF CRIME GRANT PROGRAMS

Sexual Assault Victim Services

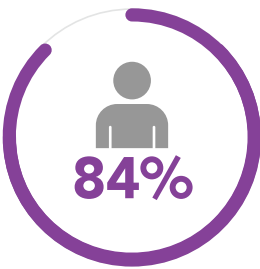
Each year, the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC), through its Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) victim assistance and victim compensation grant programs and its discretionary grant programs, awards funding to states and victim service organizations to address the emotional, advocacy, and financial needs of victims of crime. This topical snapshot details the services provided to adult and child victims of sexual assault by the 6,837 organizations that received VOCA victim assistance funds and the 53 agencies that administered VOCA victim compensation during fiscal year (FY) 2019.

Several types of organizations are able to support victims of sexual assault, who may need both immediate/ crisis and long-term counseling to address the trauma of their victimization. Victim service providers play a vital role in supporting victims' ability to obtain medical/forensic examinations following their assault. States can fund these services through VOCA victim assistance funding. In recent years, victims have increasingly used VOCA victim compensation funding—distinct from assistance funding—to cover the costs of sexual assault forensic examinations.

Organizations Serving Sexual Assault Victims

In FY 2019, nearly all OVC-funded victim service providers served a victim of sexual assault, with an average of **401,093 sexual assault victims served each quarter**. Half of the organizations allocated a portion of their VOCA victim assistance funding specifically to help these victims.

Victim Service Providers Serving Sexual Assault Victims



of VOCA-funded organizations served sexual assault victims.



of VOCA-funded organizations allocated funds to address sexual assault.



Types of Organizations That Allocated Funds To Provide Services for Victims of Sexual Assault

3,416 VOCA-funded organizations allocated funds to address sexual assault—



Domestic and family violence and sexual assault services organizations



Prosecutor's offices or courts



Multiservice agencies



Law enforcement agencies



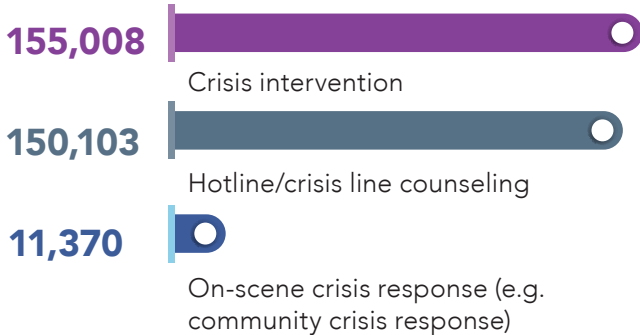
Organizations with other designations (including campus-based victim services, child abuse or juvenile service organizations, faith-based establishments, and other community service providers.)

Emotional Support and Safety Services for Sexual Assault Victims

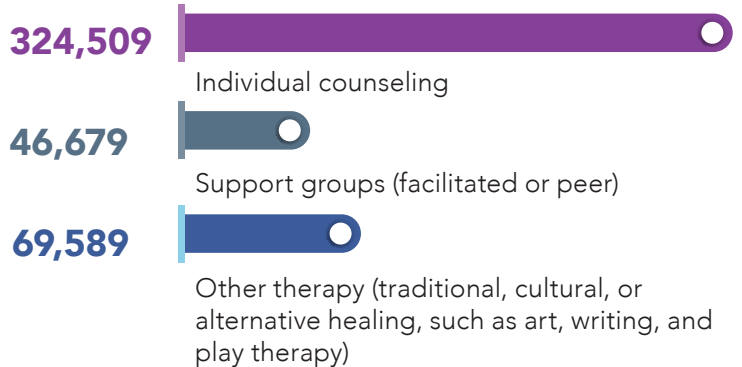
Emotional support and safety services are crucial services provided by OVC-funded organizations that primarily serve victims of sexual assault.¹ Victims may access the same service provider multiple times for both immediate/crisis services and longer-term counseling services. In FY 2019, a total of 285,027 individuals received emotional support and safety services from these organizations.

Frequency of Emotional Support and Safety Services

Crisis services were provided **316,481** times:



Counseling/therapy was provided **440,777** times:

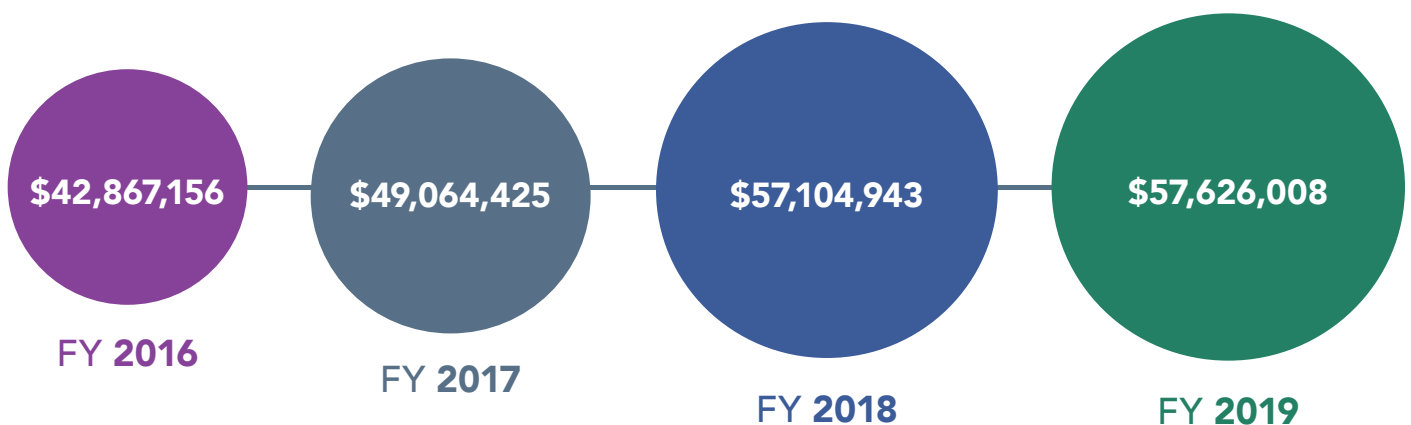


Victim Compensation Claims Paid Related to Sexual Assault

Victims of sexual assault can apply for compensation to cover costs associated with medical examinations, mental health treatment, economic support (e.g. lost wages), and other expenses. In FY 2019, states used VOCA compensation and other state funding to pay 110,248 claims for victims of sexual assault, which represents nearly half of the 235,314 total compensation claims paid. Claims paid related to sexual assault were valued at \$88 million. Since FY 2016, the number of compensation claims paid to sexual assault victims has increased, particularly in compensation funding paid for sexual assault forensic examinations.

Increases in Compensation Claims Related to Sexual Assault

Since 2016, the number of compensation claims paid to victims of sexual assault increased by 5 percent, from 104,728 claims to 110,248 claims. During this period, sexual assault forensic exams have been the top expense paid for victims of sexual assault. From FYs 2016–2019, expenses paid for sexual assault forensic exams increased by 34 percent, from \$42,867,157 to \$57,626,008.



¹ Defined in this snapshot as organizations in which 75 percent or more of the victims served each quarter have experienced sexual assault.