



National Survey of Youth in Custody, 2018

Victim, Perpetrator, and Incident Characteristics of Sexual Victimization of Youth in Juvenile Facilities, 2018 – Statistical Tables

Michael B. Field and Elizabeth Davis, *BJS Statisticians*

This report describes victim, perpetrator, and incident characteristics of sexual victimization of youth in juvenile facilities. These tables accompany the full Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) report *Sexual Victimization Reported by Youth in Juvenile Facilities, 2018* (NCJ 253042, BJS, December 2019), which provides national estimates of sexual victimization in juvenile facilities.^{1,2}

Data are from BJS's 2018 National Survey of Youth in Custody (NSYC-3), conducted from March to December of 2018. The NSYC-3 was conducted in 327 facilities that housed juveniles, including 217 state-owned or state-operated facilities and 110 locally or privately operated facilities that held state-placed youth under contract. An additional five sampled facilities were excluded because data on sexual victimization were not collected or could not be used. The NSYC-3 sexual-victimization survey was completed by 6,049 youth, who were sampled from at least one facility in every state and the District of Columbia. See the *Methodology* in the full BJS report for detailed information on how the data were collected and analyzed.

The NSYC is part of BJS's National Prison Rape Statistics Program and collects data on allegations of sexual victimization as required by the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 (PREA; P.L. 108-79).

Organization of the statistical tables

The statistical tables are organized into two major sections.

Section 1 includes demographics and characteristics of youth who reported having been sexually victimized in the 12 months prior to the survey. This section also includes information on the number of incidents experienced in the last 12 months, whether the victim was physically injured in any of the incidents, when the first incident occurred, and any prior contact or relationship between the victim and perpetrator(s).

Section 2 includes perpetrator and incident characteristics for the most serious incident of sexual victimization during the 12 months prior to the survey, as reported by the respondent. Most-serious incidents in this section were determined by first ranking incidents reported by each youth into one of the four categories: (1) involving "forced or coerced sexual acts," (2) involving "other forced or coerced sexual activity," (3) involving "sexual acts with no force or coercion," or (4) involving "other sexual activity with no force or coercion." Each youth was then asked about the most recent incident from the highest-ranked category.

¹For the full report, see <https://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/svryjf18.pdf>.

²For supplemental tables, see <https://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/svryjf18st.pdf>.

Highlights

Sexual victimization in the past year

- A higher percentage of male (6.1%) than female (2.9%) youth reported staff sexual misconduct.
- A higher percentage of female (4.7%) than male (1.6%) youth reported youth-on-youth victimization.
- A higher percentage of white (6.3%) and black (6.7%) youth reported staff sexual misconduct than Hispanic youth (3.2%).
- A higher percentage of white youth (3.1%) reported youth-on-youth sexual victimization than black (1.2%) or Hispanic (1.0%) youth.
- A higher percentage of youth who identified their sexual orientation as lesbian, gay, bisexual, or something else (12.0%) reported sexual victimization than heterosexual youth (6.5%).
- A higher percentage of youth who identified as a different gender from their sex recorded at birth (19.1%) reported sexual victimization than youth who identified with their biological sex (6.8%).
- For nearly every disability and mental-health condition measured, youth with the disability or condition reported higher rates of youth-on-youth sexual victimization and staff sexual misconduct than youth without the disability or condition.
- About half of youth (51%) who reported prior sexual victimization in another juvenile facility also reported sexual victimization in their current facility.
- An estimated 81% of youth who reported victimization by another youth and 91% of youth who reported staff sexual misconduct reported more than one incident.
- An estimated 32% of youth who reported victimization by another youth and 3% of youth who reported staff sexual misconduct reported physical injuries.
- About half of youth victimized by another youth (50%) and about half of youth victims of staff sexual misconduct (47%) reported that they experienced their first victimization during their first month in the facility.

Most-serious incidents of sexual victimization

- In most-serious incidents of staff sexual misconduct, an estimated 91% of incidents involved only female staff, while 6% involved only male staff.
- An estimated 60% of most-serious incidents of youth-on-youth sexual victimization and 61% of most-serious incidents of staff sexual misconduct involved a single perpetrator.
- In most-serious incidents of youth-on-youth sexual victimization in which there was a single perpetrator reported, 57% of the time the perpetrator was white and 26% of the time the perpetrator was black.
- In most-serious incidents of youth-on-youth sexual victimization in which there were multiple perpetrators reported, 35% of the time all perpetrators were black, and 20% of the time all perpetrators were white.
- A reported 36% of most-serious incidents of staff sexual misconduct involved force or coercion—72% of the time when the perpetrator was male, 32% of the time when the perpetrator was female.
- In most-serious incidents of youth-on-youth sexual victimization, an estimated 33% of victims were threatened with physical harm, 22% were threatened with a weapon, and 14% were given drugs or alcohol.

Terms and definitions

Force or coercion includes—

- physical force or threat of force
- other forms of pressure or coercion, such as threatening to get the youth in trouble; giving the youth money, favors, protection, or other special treatment; or repeatedly asking the youth to engage in sexual activity.

Sexual victimization reported by youth involves any forced or coerced sexual activity with another youth and any sexual activity with facility staff.³

■ **Youth-on-youth sexual victimization involving force or coercion** includes—

- forced or coerced sexual acts
 - contact between the penis and the vagina or anus
 - penetration of the anal or vaginal opening of another person by a hand, finger, or other object
 - contact between the mouth and the penis, vagina, or anus
 - rubbing of another person’s penis or vagina with a hand.
- other forced or coerced sexual activity that did not meet the description of sexual acts above
 - kissing on the lips
 - kissing another body part, not including those listed under sexual acts above

- being shown something sexual, such as pictures or a movie
- other sexual activity, whether or not it involved touching.

■ **Staff sexual misconduct that either did or did not involve force or coercion** includes—

- sexual acts
 - contact between the penis and the vagina or anus
 - penetration of the anal or vaginal opening of another person by a hand, finger, or other object
 - contact between the mouth and the penis, vagina, or anus
 - rubbing of another person’s penis or vagina with a hand.
- other sexual activity that did not meet the description of sexual acts above
 - kissing on the lips
 - kissing another body part, not including those listed under sexual acts above
 - being shown something sexual, such as pictures or a movie
 - other sexual activity, whether or not it involved touching.

³The NSYC does not distinguish between completed and attempted sexual victimization.

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Section 1: Sexual victimization in the past year

TABLE 1.1

Youth reporting sexual victimization in juvenile facilities, by type of incident and selected youth characteristics, 2018

Youth characteristic	Percent of youth reporting—			Standard error		
	Sexual victimization ^a	Youth-on-youth sexual victimization involving force or coercion ^b	Staff sexual misconduct	Sexual victimization	Youth-on-youth sexual victimization involving force or coercion	Staff sexual misconduct
Sex						
Male*	7.1%	1.6%	6.1%	0.44%	0.19%	0.42%
Female	6.6	4.7 †	2.9 †	1.22	1.17	0.56
Race/ethnicity						
White ^c *	8.5%	3.1%	6.3%	0.72%	0.41%	0.64%
Black ^c	7.3	1.2 †	6.7	0.70	0.26	0.68
Hispanic	4.1 †	1.0 †	3.2 †	0.70	0.35	0.65
Other, non-Hispanic ^{c,d}	4.7	1.9	3.8	1.56	0.96	1.42
Two or more races ^c	6.4	2.8	4.0	2.00	1.49	1.46
Age						
14 or younger	4.4%	2.3%	3.2%	1.18%	0.94%	1.09%
15	5.9	1.6	4.8	1.16	0.41	1.11
16	8.2	2.4	6.8	0.99	0.52	0.90
17	7.3	2.4 †	5.7	0.88	0.48	0.75
18 or older*	7.1	1.3	6.1	0.78	0.28	0.74
Sexual orientation						
Heterosexual*	6.5%	1.1%	5.9%	0.43%	0.16%	0.42%
Lesbian/gay/bisexual/ something else	12.0 †	8.4 †	5.5	1.50	1.32	0.93
Not sure	6.2	5.0 †	4.7	3.28	2.98	2.84
Gender identity						
Gender identity same as sex recorded at birth*	6.8%	1.6%	5.7%	0.41%	0.17%	0.39%
Gender identity different from sex recorded at birth ^e	19.1 †	14.3 †	8.1	4.18	3.96	2.16
Not sure	26.8 †	19.3 †	10.8	9.86	9.48	6.09

Note: See *Terms and definitions* for information about the type of incident. For each selected youth characteristic, this table shows the percentage who reported sexual victimization in their current facility in the 12 months prior to the survey; for example, among youth age 14 or younger, an estimated 4.4% reported sexual victimization in their current facility.

*Comparison group.

†Difference with comparison group is significant at the 95% confidence level.

^aThese estimates may not equal the sum of youth-on-youth sexual victimization involving force or coercion and staff sexual misconduct because some youth reported both types of victimization.

^bExcludes acts in which there was no report of force or coercion. Called “youth-on-youth” in prior reports.

^cExcludes persons of Hispanic origin (e.g., “white” refers to non-Hispanic whites and “black” refers to non-Hispanic blacks).

^dIncludes Asians, Native Hawaiians, other Pacific Islanders, American Indians, and Alaska Natives.

^eIncludes youth who described their gender identity as “transgender,” “something else,” or a category other than what was recorded at birth.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Survey of Youth in Custody, 2018.

TABLE 1.2**Youth reporting sexual victimization in juvenile facilities, by type of incident and selected victim experiences, 2018**

Victim experience	Percent of youth reporting—			Standard error		
	Sexual victimization ^a	Youth-on-youth sexual victimization involving force or coercion ^b	Staff sexual misconduct	Sexual victimization	Youth-on-youth sexual victimization involving force or coercion	Staff sexual misconduct
Sexual victimization in lifetime prior to entering current facility						
Prior sexual victimization in another facility	51.0% †	33.2% †	30.3% †	6.18%	5.29%	6.39%
Prior sexual victimization but not in another facility	8.7 †	3.6 †	5.5	1.50	0.89	1.06
No prior sexual victimization*	5.9	1.0	5.3	0.42	0.15	0.41
Time in current facility						
Less than 6 months	4.9% †	1.2% †	4.1% †	0.41%	0.21%	0.37%
6-11 months	8.3	2.4	6.6	0.88	0.47	0.80
12 months or more*	11.3	3.1	9.3	1.42	0.65	1.34

Note: See *Terms and definitions* for information about the type of incident. For each selected victim experience reported by youth, this table shows the percentage who reported sexual victimization in their current facility in the 12 months prior to the survey; for example, among youth who had experienced no prior sexual victimization, an estimated 5.9% reported sexual victimization in their current facility.

*Comparison group.

†Difference with comparison group is significant at the 95% confidence level.

^aThese estimates may not equal the sum of youth-on-youth sexual victimization involving force or coercion and staff sexual misconduct because some youth reported both types of victimization.

^bExcludes acts in which there was no report of force or coercion. Called “youth-on-youth” in prior reports.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Survey of Youth in Custody, 2018.

TABLE 1.3a**Youth reporting sexual victimization in juvenile facilities, by type of incident and reported disability or mental-health status, 2018**

Disability and mental-health status	Percent of youth reporting—							
	Youth-on-youth sexual victimization involving force or coercion ^a				Staff sexual misconduct			
	With condition	Standard error	Without condition*	Standard error	With condition	Standard error	Without condition*	Standard error
Disability								
Any reported disability	2.6% †	0.35%	1.2%	0.23%	6.9% †	0.76%	4.4%	0.47%
Serious difficulty concentrating/remembering/making decisions due to physical/mental/emotional problem	2.7 †	0.38	1.3	0.23	6.6 †	0.75	4.7	0.48
Deaf or serious difficulty hearing	3.3	1.18	1.8	0.19	8.8	2.91	5.3	0.37
Blind or serious difficulty seeing	4.1 †	0.85	1.7	0.18	7.4	1.53	5.4	0.40
Serious difficulty walking/climbing stairs	6.0 †	2.33	1.7	0.19	22.6 †	6.71	5.2	0.36
Difficulty dressing/bathing	8.1 †	3.69	1.8	0.19	9.8	4.56	5.4	0.38
Mental-health condition^b								
Any reported mental-health condition	2.1%	0.23%	0.8%	0.34%	5.9% †	0.47%	4.0%	0.60%
Attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADD/ADHD)	2.3 †	0.29	1.1	0.26	6.1	0.55	4.7	0.51
Dyslexia	5.3 †	1.21	1.5	0.19	8.4 †	1.66	5.3	0.39
Learning disability	2.6 †	0.48	1.5	0.21	6.8	0.99	5.0	0.38
Autism or Asperger's	3.4	1.16	1.8	0.19	7.4	3.57	5.5	0.37
Depression	2.9 †	0.36	0.8	0.18	6.4 †	0.57	4.7	0.52
Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)	2.7 †	0.40	1.4	0.22	7.7 †	0.83	4.5	0.48
Another anxiety disorder	3.4 †	0.46	0.9	0.15	6.4	0.70	5.0	0.50
Other mental/emotional condition	4.2 †	0.59	1.1	0.20	8.1 †	0.93	4.8	0.42

Note: See *Terms and definitions* for information about the type of incident. For each disability or mental-health condition listed, this table compares rates of sexual victimization for youth who reported having the condition, to youth who reported not having the condition; for example, an estimated 6.4% of youth who reported depression also reported staff sexual misconduct in their current facility, while 4.7% of youth who reported not having depression reported staff sexual misconduct.

*Comparison group. Includes youth who reported “no” to each condition.

†Difference with comparison group is significant at the 95% confidence level.

^aExcludes acts in which there was no report of force or coercion. Called “youth-on-youth” in prior reports.

^bBased on self-reporting, 78.4% (standard error = 0.66%) of youth reported one or more mental-health conditions.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Survey of Youth in Custody, 2018.

TABLE 1.3b**Youth reporting sexual victimization in juvenile facilities, by type of incident and results of mental-health screener, 2018**

Results of mental-health screener ^a	Percent of youth reporting—		Standard error	
	Youth-on-youth sexual victimization involving force or coercion ^b	Staff sexual misconduct	Youth-on-youth sexual victimization involving force or coercion	Staff sexual misconduct
No indicated mental-health problem	0.7%	4.2%	0.17%	0.53%
Anxiety disorder	1.7	5.1	0.47	0.92
Serious psychological distress	4.5	9.2	0.61	0.87

Note: See *Terms and definitions* for information about the type of incident. For each mental-health screener result, this table shows the percentage who reported sexual victimization in their current facility in the 12 months prior to the survey; for example, among youth with no indicated mental-health problem, an estimated 4.2% reported staff sexual misconduct in their current facility.

^aBased on the Kessler-6 (K6) scale, a six-item scale designed to provide rapid assessment of the prevalence of serious psychological distress (SPD) in population surveys. The K6 has been recognized as a broad screener rather than a specific screener for any one mental disorder. Studies have shown that K6-scale outcomes are consistent with blinded clinical diagnoses of SPD in general-population samples. K6 scores from 0 to 7 indicate no mental-health problem, scores from 8 to 12 indicate an anxiety disorder, and scores of 13 and greater indicate SPD.

^bExcludes acts in which there was no report of force or coercion. Called “youth-on-youth” in prior reports.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Survey of Youth in Custody, 2018.

TABLE 1.4
Youth-on-youth sexual victimization involving force or coercion in juvenile facilities, by selected victim experiences, 2018

Victim experience	Victims reporting—	
	Percent	Standard error
Number of incidents		
1	19.4%	4.46%
2	20.2	5.28
3-5	26.6	4.29
6-10	9.7	4.89
More than 10	24.1	4.97
Victim physically injured		
Yes	32.0%	5.68%
No	68.0	5.68
When victimization first happened^a		
During first 24 hours	12.1%	3.28%
During first week (but not first 24 hours)	17.8	4.52
During first month (but not first week)	20.5	3.96
During first 2 months (but not first month)	7.8	2.25
After first 2 months	35.2	5.94
Not reported	6.5	1.96
Prior contact/relationship between victim and youth perpetrator		
Youth offered victim things like drugs/cigarettes/alcohol/other items not allowed in facility	30.2%	5.60%
Youth gave victim money or other special gifts	39.3	5.12
Youth offered victim special protection from other youth	39.6	5.45
Youth did something else to get victim out of trouble or make things easier for victim	55.7	5.83
Youth showed victim magazines/pictures/videos with naked adults or children	33.0	6.26
Youth said there was nothing victim could do to stop the sexual contact	38.0	5.44
Youth threatened to hurt someone close to victim if victim did not have sexual contact	32.6	5.52
Youth threatened to hurt victim if victim did not have sexual contact	49.5	5.35

Note: See *Terms and definitions* for information about the type of incident.

^aBased on when the youth first arrived at the facility on the current admission.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Survey of Youth in Custody, 2018.

TABLE 1.5
Staff sexual misconduct in juvenile facilities, by selected victim experiences, 2018

Victim experience	Victims reporting—	
	Percent	Standard error
Number of incidents		
1	9.0%	2.08%
2	18.2	3.34
3-5	29.6	3.30
6-10	18.3	3.11
More than 10	25.0	2.90
Victim physically injured		
Yes	3.4%	1.32%
No	96.6	1.32
When victimization first happened^a		
During first 24 hours	8.9%	1.73%
During first week (but not first 24 hours)	14.4	3.12
During first month (but not first week)	23.5	2.97
During first 2 months (but not first month)	11.4	2.12
After first 2 months	31.5	3.37
Not reported	10.3	3.02
Prior contact/relationship between youth and staff		
Staff told youth about personal life outside of work	76.6%	3.70%
Staff gave youth pictures or wrote letters	49.1	3.83
Staff offered youth drugs/cigarettes/alcohol/other items not allowed in facility	42.7	3.76
Staff gave youth money/other special gifts	54.8	3.50
Staff offered youth protection from other youth	16.6	2.50
Staff did something else to get youth out of trouble or make things easier for youth	54.3	3.42
Staff spent time alone with youth asking not to tell anyone about it	59.0	3.82
Staff told youth that they felt emotionally close or had special feelings	74.4	2.94
Staff talked about sex, joked about sex, or shared sexual stories with youth	81.9	2.89

Note: See *Terms and definitions* for information about the type of incident.

^aBased on when the youth first arrived at the facility on the current admission.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Survey of Youth in Custody, 2018.

Section 2: Most-serious incidents of sexual victimization

TABLE 2.1

Perpetrator characteristics in most-serious incidents of youth-on-youth sexual victimization involving force or coercion in juvenile facilities, 2018

Perpetrator characteristics	Among victims reporting youth-on-youth sexual victimizations, percent reporting—	Standard error
Multiple perpetrators involved in incident		
Yes	40.3%	5.49%
No	59.7	5.49
Sex of perpetrator		
Male(s) only	67.8%	4.71%
Female(s) only	26.5	4.43
Both male(s) and female(s)	5.7	2.77
Race of perpetrator in single-perpetrator incidents		
White only	57.1%	8.07%
Black only	26.2	9.05
Other race/two or more races ^a	16.6	4.89
Race of perpetrators in multiple-perpetrator incidents		
White only	19.9%	7.68%
Black only	35.4	8.15
Other race(s)/two or more races	44.7	8.99
Any one of the perpetrators was^b—		
Hispanic	31.6%	5.04%
A gang member	45.3	6.12
Victim's roommate	35.7	1.29

Note: Most-serious incidents in this table were determined by first ranking incidents reported by each youth into one of two priority categories: (1) involving “forced or coerced sexual acts,” or (2) involving “other forced or coerced sexual activity.” Each youth was then asked about the most recent incident from the highest reported priority category. See *Terms and definitions* for information about the type of incident.

^aIncludes Asians, Native Hawaiians, other Pacific Islanders, American Indians, and Alaska Natives.

^bDetails sum to more than 100% because some youth reported more than one characteristic. Refers to both single- and multi-perpetrator incidents.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Survey of Youth in Custody, 2018.

TABLE 2.2

Incident characteristics of most-serious incidents of youth-on-youth sexual victimization involving force or coercion in juvenile facilities, 2018

Incident characteristics	Among victims reporting youth-on-youth sexual victimizations, percent reporting—	Standard error
Type of pressure/force		
Given drugs/alcohol	13.8%	3.82%
Threatened with physical harm	33.0	5.98
Physically held down/restrained	22.1	4.47
Physically hurt/injured	18.8	4.10
Threatened with a weapon	21.8	5.46
Pressured/hurt some other way	64.5	6.18
Location		
In victim's room/sleeping area	24.0%	5.80%
In room/sleeping area of another youth	4.1	1.83
Shower/bathroom	13.9	3.16
Other common area on facility grounds ^a	36.4	6.44
Somewhere else on or off facility grounds, unidentified, or unknown	21.7	5.58
Time of day		
6 a.m. to noon	22.7%	5.07%
Noon to 6 p.m.	29.5	5.11
6 p.m. to midnight	35.2	6.37
Midnight to 6 a.m.	12.6	3.53

Note: Most-serious incidents in this table were determined by first ranking incidents reported by each youth into one of two priority categories: (1) involving “forced or coerced sexual acts,” or (2) involving “other forced or coerced sexual activity.” Each youth was then asked about the most recent incident from the highest reported priority category. See *Terms and definitions* for information about the type of incident.

^aIncludes yard or recreation area, classroom, library, workshop, kitchen or other workplace, office, closet, supply room, bus, van, car, or other unknown areas.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Survey of Youth in Custody, 2018.

TABLE 2.3a**Sex of perpetrator and use of force or coercion in most-serious incidents of staff sexual misconduct in juvenile facilities, 2018**

	Among youth reporting staff sexual misconduct, percent reporting—				Standard error			
	Any staff perpetrator(s)	Male staff perpetrator(s) ^a	Female staff perpetrator(s) ^a	Both male and female staff perpetrators	Any staff perpetrator(s)	Male staff perpetrator(s)	Female staff perpetrator(s)	Both male and female staff perpetrators
Use of force or coercion reported								
Any staff sexual misconduct	100%	5.6%	91.1%	3.3%	:	1.58	1.96	1.31
Use of force or coercion	36.2	4.0	28.9	3.3	4.09	1.46	3.78	1.31
No use of force or coercion ^b	63.8	1.5	62.2	0.0	4.09	0.57	4.05	:

Note: For most-serious incidents of staff sexual misconduct, this table shows how often youth reported that the perpetrator was of a given sex and how often youth reported that force or coercion was used; for example, 91.1% of reported most-serious incidents of staff sexual misconduct involved only female perpetrators, 36.2% involved force or coercion, and 4.0% involved only male perpetrators and force or coercion. In facilities covered by the 2018 National Survey of Youth in Custody (NSYC-3), an estimated 90% of adjudicated youth were male. Based on staff counts provided by 321 of the facilities participating in the NYSC-3, 45% of staff members were female. This table excludes youth who did not report the sex of the perpetrator(s). Most-serious incidents in this table were determined by first ranking incidents reported by each youth into one of four priority categories: (1) involving “forced or coerced sexual acts,” (2) involving “other forced or coerced sexual activity,” (3) involving “sexual acts with no force or coercion,” or (4) involving “other sexual activity with no force or coercion.” Each youth was then asked about the most recent incident from the highest reported priority category. See *Terms and definitions* for information about the type of incident.

:Not calculated.

^aDetails do not sum to total due to rounding.

^bCalled “staff sexual misconduct with no report of force or coercion” in prior reports.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Survey of Youth in Custody, 2018.

TABLE 2.3b**Sex of staff perpetrator in most-serious incidents of staff sexual misconduct in juvenile facilities, by whether youth reported use of force or coercion, 2018**

Use of force or coercion reported	Sex of staff perpetrator(s)				Standard error			
	Any perpetrator(s)	Male	Female	Both male and female	Any perpetrator(s)	Male	Female	Both male and female
Yes*	100%	11.1	79.8	9.1	:	3.88	4.94	3.57
No ^a	100%	2.4 †	97.6 †	0.0 †	:	0.89	0.89	:

Note: For each type of staff sexual misconduct (force/coercion or no force/coercion) reported by youth, this table shows the reported sex of the staff perpetrator(s); for example, 11.1% of reported most-serious incidents of staff sexual misconduct using force or coercion involved only male staff. In facilities covered by the 2018 National Survey of Youth in Custody (NSYC-3), an estimated 90% of adjudicated youth were male. Based on staff counts provided by 321 of the facilities participating in the NYSC-3, 45% of staff members were female. This table excludes youth who did not report the sex of the perpetrator(s). Most-serious incidents in this table were determined by first ranking incidents reported by each youth into one of four priority categories: (1) involving “forced or coerced sexual acts,” (2) involving “other forced or coerced sexual activity,” (3) involving “sexual acts with no force or coercion,” or (4) involving “other sexual activity with no force or coercion.” Each youth was then asked about the most recent incident from the highest reported priority category. See *Terms and definitions* for information about the type of incident.

*Comparison group.

†Difference with comparison group is significant at the 95% confidence level.

:Not calculated.

^aCalled “staff sexual misconduct with no report of force or coercion” in prior reports.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Survey of Youth in Custody, 2018.

TABLE 2.3c

Among youth reporting staff sexual misconduct by a given sex of perpetrator, percent reporting use of force in most-serious incidents of staff sexual misconduct in juvenile facilities, 2018

Use of force or coercion reported	Sex of staff perpetrator(s)			Standard error		
	When perpetrator was male [*]	When perpetrator was female	When perpetrators were both male and female	When perpetrator was male	When perpetrator was female	When perpetrators were both male and female
Any staff sexual misconduct	100%	100%	100%	:	:	:
Use of force or coercion	72.2	31.7 †	100 †	11.27	4.13	:
No use of force or coercion ^a	27.8	68.3 †	0.0	11.27	4.13	:

Note: For each sex of staff perpetrator(s), this table shows the type of staff sexual misconduct (force/coercion or no force/coercion) reported by youth; for example, 72.2% of reported most-serious incidents of staff sexual misconduct committed only by male staff involved force or coercion. In facilities covered by the 2018 National Survey of Youth in Custody (NSYC-3), an estimated 90% of adjudicated youth were male. Based on staff counts provided by 321 of the facilities participating in the NSYC-3, 45% of staff members were female. This table excludes youth who did not report the sex of the perpetrator(s). Most-serious incidents in this table were determined by first ranking incidents reported by each youth into one of four priority categories: (1) involving “forced or coerced sexual acts,” (2) involving “other forced or coerced sexual activity,” (3) involving “sexual acts with no force or coercion,” or (4) involving “other sexual activity with no force or coercion.” Each youth was then asked about the most recent incident from the highest reported priority category. See *Terms and definitions* for information about the type of incident.

*Comparison group.

†Difference with comparison group is significant at the 95% confidence level.

:Not calculated.

^aCalled “staff sexual misconduct with no report of force or coercion” in prior reports.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Survey of Youth in Custody, 2018.

TABLE 2.4**Incident characteristics of most-serious incidents of staff sexual misconduct in juvenile facilities, 2018**

Incident characteristics	Among youth reporting staff sexual misconduct, percent reporting—	Standard error
Multiple staff perpetrators		
Yes	38.7%	4.16%
No	61.3	4.16
Pressure/force used by staff		
Yes	35.9	4.01%
No	64.1	4.01
Type of pressure/force^a		
Given drugs/alcohol	36.5%	5.41%
Threatened with physical harm	12.8	4.32
Physically held down/restrained	9.7	3.83
Physically hurt/injured	9.3	3.79
Threatened with a weapon	12.8	4.88
Pressured/hurt some other way	37.3	7.27
Location		
In victim's room/sleeping area	32.0%	3.69%
Shower/bathroom	7.5	2.48
Private office	20.0	4.16
Closet or supply room	14.8	2.76
Other areas that are somewhere else on facility grounds ^b	21.5	3.32
Off of facility grounds	4.2	1.70
Time of day		
6 a.m. to noon	13.4%	3.60%
Noon to 6 p.m.	28.5	4.33
6 p.m. to midnight	32.7	4.70
Midnight to 6 a.m.	25.4	3.61

Note: Most-serious incidents in this table were determined by first ranking incidents reported by each youth into one of four priority categories: (1) involving “forced or coerced sexual acts,” (2) involving “other forced or coerced sexual activity,” (3) involving “sexual acts with no force or coercion,” or (4) involving “other sexual activity with no force or coercion.” Each youth was then asked about the most recent incident from the highest reported priority category. See *Terms and definitions* for information about the type of incident.

^aBased on victims who reported that pressure or force was used during the incident. Details sum to more than 100% because some youth reported that more than one type of pressure or force was used during the incident.

^bIncludes yard or recreation area, classroom, library, workshop, kitchen or other workplace, office, closet, supply room, bus, van, car, or other unknown areas.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Survey of Youth in Custody, 2018.



The Bureau of Justice Statistics of the U.S. Department of Justice is the principal federal agency responsible for measuring crime, criminal victimization, criminal offenders, victims of crime, correlates of crime, and the operation of criminal and civil justice systems at the federal, state, tribal, and local levels. BJS collects, analyzes, and disseminates reliable statistics on crime and justice systems in the United States, supports improvements to state and local criminal justice information systems, and participates with national and international organizations to develop and recommend national standards for justice statistics. Jeffrey H. Anderson is the director.

This report was prepared by Michael B. Field and Elizabeth Davis. Amy Lauger verified the report.

Edrienne Su edited the report. Tina Dorsey and Theodore Robinson produced the report.

November 2020, NCJ 255446



NCJ 255446

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