

	<h2>Getting it Right</h2> <p>Tips & considerations for using the data correctly</p>

	<h2>Prevalence Study</h2>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Prevalence is underreported<ul style="list-style-type: none">– The study only included people who had telephones. It doesn't include people who are homeless, incarcerated, only own a cell phone, etc.■ Prevalence studies are one of the more reliable data sets because they randomly ask many people about their experiences and then apply that data to the general population.

Prevalence Study

- All participants were adults. However, they reported on their experiences as a child also
- Victim-based survey
 - Researchers asked questions that met the legal and/or national survey's definition of SV.
 - The respondents may not have defined their experience as SV
 - i.e., a participant answered that at age 14 he had sex with a women who was 35. The researchers defined this as non-forcible child rape, but the victim may not define it as so.

Prevalence Study

- Child Victimization Report
 - In 2004, Virginia reanalyzed the data from the original survey to look closer at the 78% of females and 94% of males experienced their first victimization as a child.
 - The report analyzed the data of those respondents victimized as children with a change in definition for the two non-forced sexual victimization categories from a 5 year age difference in the original report to a 3 year age difference in this data analysis to more closely align with Virginia law.
 - This increased the number of child victims of non-forcible sexual violence.

	<h2 style="text-align: center;">VAdata</h2>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Represent only a fraction of the total victims in Virginia <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Data are only from victims who use the services of Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Service Providers during the report period. ■ Includes a count from most, but not all, providers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Consistently, during the 5-year report period, a majority of Sexual and Domestic Violence Service Providers actively participated in VAdata. During the 2004-2005 reporting periods, all state-funded Domestic Violence Service Providers participated, and 85% of Sexual Violence Service Providers participated. Of those agencies who participated, some chose not to report on all services provided.

	<h2 style="text-align: center;">VAdata</h2>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Data for each service is collected differently <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Data are collected from victims at the time that services are provided. Data are presented based upon the number of contacts (for example, number of Hotline calls) or the number of unduplicated victims receiving services (for example, advocacy services). ■ To reduce the risk of violating personal privacy rights and to maintain the confidentiality of victims seeking services through Sexual and Domestic Violence Service Providers, VAdata does not collect personally identifying information.

Crime Reports

- An underreport of the true number of victims
 - Only includes those victims who reported to the police.
 - Much research has shown that most victims do not report to the police.
- Helpful to give a count of the number of reports of forcible rape within a given year

Crime Reports

- Shows the number of incidents, offenses and the number of victims
 - i.e., one person can be the victim of multiple forcible sex offenses.
 - In 2005, there were 4,973 incidents resulting in 5,306 offenses affecting 5,295 victims.