

Data from Sexual Assault Referral Centres tell a worrying story

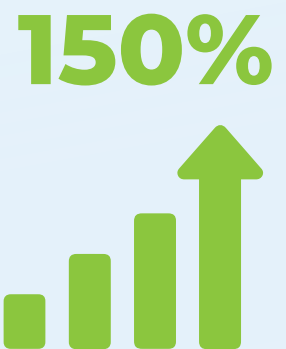


April 2021

1. The number of females visiting SARCs increased by 150% from 2017 to 2020

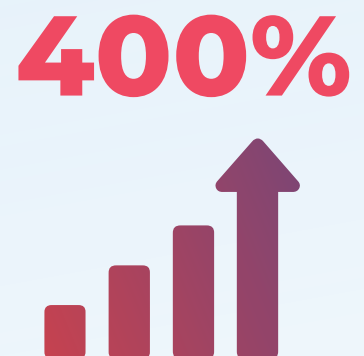
The number of females reporting to SARCs increased by over 150% to nearly 5,000 in total in 2020. Women are at far greater risk of sexual violence than men.

Female survivors



2. Whilst the majority of SARC Clients have been female, the number of male victims increased by over 400% between 2017 and 2020

Male survivors



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3. Nineteen states have passed the VAPP Act

In establishing a Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC), states automatically fulfil a key provision of the Violence Against Persons Prohibition Act 2015 (VAPPA).

Only 17 states (out of the 36) and the FCT have established Sexual Assault Referral Centres (SARCs) that provide free medical, counselling and support services to survivors of sexual violence.

There is weak commitment from state governments to establish and strengthen the multi-sectoral, inter-agency collaboration mechanisms that will sustain the delivery of SARC services to the public.



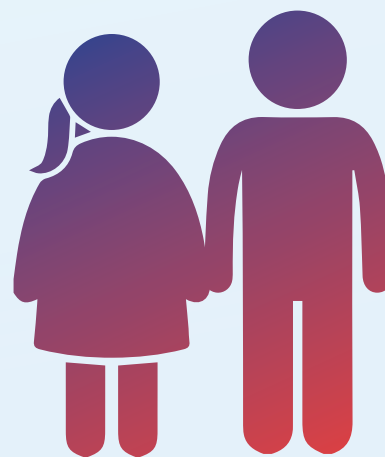
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4. Young people are most likely to be the victims

2020 data shows us that young people constitute 73% of the total number of victims.



under 18yrs

Data provides the basis for planning policy and changing practice by government, CSOs and other stakeholders