

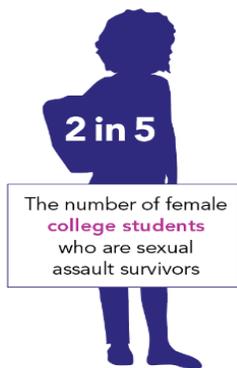
April 14, 2024

Representative Kelly Moller, Chair
Public Safety Finance and Policy Committee
Minnesota House of Representatives
St. Paul, MN

Dear Chair Moller,

Thank you for including HF4387, which will create a Task Force on Domestic Violence and Firearms, in your omnibus bill. This effort is important to ensure a safer Minnesota for so many women.

Our latest research with the Center on Women, Gender, & Public Policy at the University of Minnesota's Humphrey School shows that women across Minnesota face harassment, violence, and abuse at alarming and unacceptable levels. Women and girls in Minnesota are harmed by gender-based violence across their lifetimes – in their homes, on the streets, and in schools and workplaces.

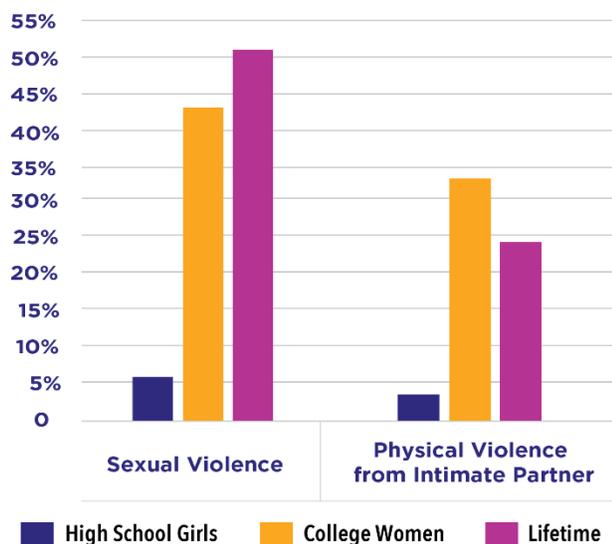


- Native American 43%**
- White 39%**
- Latina 38%**
- Black 26%**
- Asian 21%**

More than 1 in 2 Minnesota transgender students are sexual assault survivors.

2023 College Student Health Survey.

Minnesota Women & Girls Reporting Sexual Violence, and Physical Violence



CWGPP analysis of Minnesota Student Survey 2022, College Student Health Survey 2023, and National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey 2015.

Data show the need for this Task Force to understand what is happening in Minnesota and the unique circumstances facing different communities across the state.

- One in two Minnesota women report sexual violence from an intimate partner at some point in her life.
- One in four report physical violence from a partner in her lifetime.
- 2 in 5 Minnesota female college students are survivors of sexual assault.
 - Native American (43%)
 - White (39%)
 - Latina (38%)
 - African American (26%)
 - Asian (21%)
- 36% of Latinas report sexual violence other than rape in their lifetimes
- 21% of 11th grade Latina girls report sexual abuse
- In 2022, at least 20 women were killed by violence from a current or former intimate partner, leaving 31 minor children without their mothers.
- Reports of rape in Minnesota increased 11% from 2020 to 2021. In 2021, Minnesota saw 2,472 cases of rape reported to law enforcement agencies, a rate of 43.3 per 100,000 population. This was an increase of 11% over 2020 (2,222 incidents). Less than one-fourth of the reported cases were cleared by arrest or exceptional means.
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Being safe is the underpinning of our ability to thrive. The data tells us there is much more we need to do in Minnesota to create safety.

The Women's Foundation envisions a Minnesota free from all forms of violence so women and girls can be safe and well at home, school, and in their communities. Passing HF 4387 is an important step toward that vision.

Thank you,



Gloria Perez, President & CEO
Women's Foundation of Minnesota