

DETAILS OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE COST CALCULATION

Authors estimated the annual cost of police and judicial services attributable to sexual violence as the proportion of rape arrests among total arrests ($n=21,007/11,205,833$, or 0.2% each, Table 2).¹ For the attributable cost of corrections, authors first estimated the simple average annual per-capita cost for the total corrections population (i.e., jail, prison, parole, and probation)^{2,3} (\$11,641 in 2012 USD, Table 2). Authors then estimated the average number of years that a convicted sexual violence perpetrator spends in the corrections population (i.e., 7.4 years, based on the proportion of perpetrators sentenced to probation, jail, or prison and parole)⁴⁻¹¹ (Table 2).

Authors calculated the discounted lifetime cost of corrections for sexual violence offenses per perpetrator based on that average corrections term and the annual average per-capita spending for the corrections population (\$78,603 in 2012 USD, Table 2). Only a small proportion of sexual violence offenses result in conviction; existing estimates range from 0.2-5.2%.¹² Using NISVS data on the annual number of female ($n=1,929,000$)¹³ and male ($n=219,000$)¹⁴ rape victims, the annual number of rape offenses known to law enforcement ($n=108,612$, Table 2),¹⁵ the estimated proportion of those annual known offenses resulting in arrest and prosecution (i.e., cleared) (40.6%),¹⁶ and the estimated proportion of those cleared offenses resulting in conviction (68%),⁸ authors estimated 1.4% of completed or attempted rape victims have a perpetrator convicted (Tables 1-2). Authors divided the annual total estimated U.S. government criminal justice cost of sexual violence (\$2.7 billion in 2012 USD) by the estimated number of convicted perpetrators, resulting in a per-convicted perpetrator discounted lifetime criminal justice cost of \$93,105 (as 2014 USD in Table 1, inflated from 2012 USD value of \$90,130 in Table 2). An alternative presentation of these results is the discounted lifetime cost per victim, which is an estimated \$1,258 (as 2012 USD, calculated as the annual total estimated U.S. government

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criminal justice cost of sexual violence of \$2.7 billion divided by the sum of annual rape victims, or $1,929,000 + 219,000 = 2,148,000$ (or, \$1,300 as 2014 USD¹⁷, demonstrated in Table 1).

The estimated per-offense cost of criminal justice in a recent study was \$26,479 (2008 USD, or \$29,008 as 2014 USD¹⁷), compared to this study's estimate of \$1,300 (Table 1) per-victim. The previous study assessed a per-offense cost of criminal justice activities based on the number of rape offenses known to law enforcement, while this study used survey data (i.e., 2011 NISVS) that included both reported and unreported rape offenses. For a direct comparison of this study's estimate to the previous estimate, one can apply the number of rape offenses known to law enforcement (i.e., a much smaller denominator), and this study's per-victim criminal justice cost estimate becomes \$25,705 (2014 USD).

The top-down approach to criminal justice accounting by crime the authors—and the referenced previous study—employed is comprehensive but does not facilitate, for example, specific investigation of rape victims' services spending, and does not allow authors to eliminate or re-classify spending on individual elements; for example, civil court proceedings.¹⁸ This approach also does not account for public criminal justice expenditures outside of dedicated budgets, which may be substantial,¹⁹ nor non-public expenditures on related activities.

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