

# The State of Sexual Assault in Sacramento County



## **WEAVE is Sacramento County's Designated Rape Crisis Center**

Every county in the state of California is required to have a designated Rape Crisis Center funded, in part, through the California Office of Emergency Services (CalOES). A California Rape Crisis Center is the entity responsible for providing an array of mandatory services to which survivors of sexual assault are entitled. The requirements to be a Rape Crisis Center are established in California Evidence Code (Section 1035.2) and Penal Code (Section 13837).

WEAVE is Sacramento County's designated Rape Crisis Center and the sole agency charged with providing these mandatory services to survivors of sexual assault. Required services include a 24/7 crisis line, 24/7 response and accompaniment for survivors who are undergoing a forensic medical examination, follow up contact and support within 72 hours of the examination, ongoing advocacy and accompaniment for survivors during law enforcement interviews and legal proceedings, and free sexual assault counseling.

Every Rape Crisis Center must employ staff and/or volunteers who meet the state requirements to be a Sexual Assault Counselor. The Sexual Assault Counselor designation requires completion of a state approved 40-hour sexual assault training and eight hours of sexual assault continuing education annually. The Sexual Assault Counselor designation only applies to individuals under the direct supervision of the County's designated Rape Crisis Center.

By meeting these stringent requirements, WEAVE's Sexual Assault Counselors hold confidential communications privilege. This means that a Sexual Assault Counselor can not be compelled to disclose information shared with them by the victim without the victim's express written consent. This prevents perpetrators and their attorneys from exploiting the justice system to further harm a victim and is essential in creating safe places for victims to receive trauma-informed services.

Additionally, WEAVE coordinates the County's Sexual Assault Response Team (SART). The SART is a multi-disciplinary team comprised of representatives from WEAVE, local law enforcement agencies, Sacramento County District Attorney's Office, forensic medical professionals, and the Sacramento County Crime Lab. The SART meets throughout the year to review cases, engage in training and capacity building, and identify opportunities to improve processes and systems to support survivors and hold perpetrators accountable.

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**WEAVE knows the survivor is the expert of their life and respects the timeline each chooses. Having an array of options available to every survivor is essential for immediate response and long-term healing and well-being.**



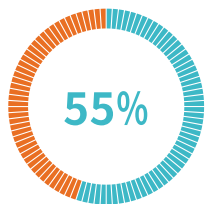
WEAVE's 24/7 Support and Information Line received **721 calls** related to sexual assault. This included calls from survivors seeking support and resources, family and friends of survivors wanting information on how to best support their loved one, and community members and partners seeking information.



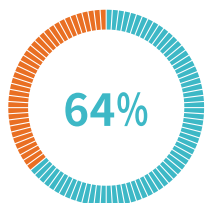
WEAVE's Forensic Medical Examination Response Team responded to **285 sexual assault survivors** undergoing a Sexual Assault Forensic Examination at the Sutter BEAR Clinic. Advocates provide emotional support throughout the **3-4 hour examination**. When clothing is taken as evidence, survivors receive new clothing to wear home. An Advocate follows up with every survivor to provide access to additional support including counseling and advocacy.



WEAVE Associate Therapists provided counseling to **302 primary and secondary survivors** of sexual assault. Primary survivors of sexual assault are those who experienced the assault and engage in counseling related to identify coping techniques and develop pathways to healing. Secondary survivors are family members and partners impacted by the assault who receive support in understanding how the assault impacts their loved one and how they can best support them. Survivors can access counseling regardless of when the assault occurred.



Survivors undergoing a Sexual Assault Forensic Examination are younger. In 2025, **55%** of survivors were between **12 and 25 years**.



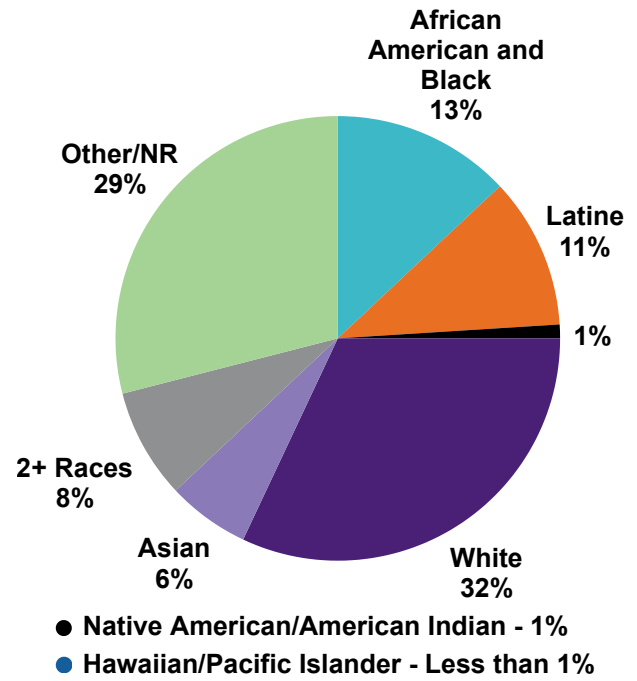
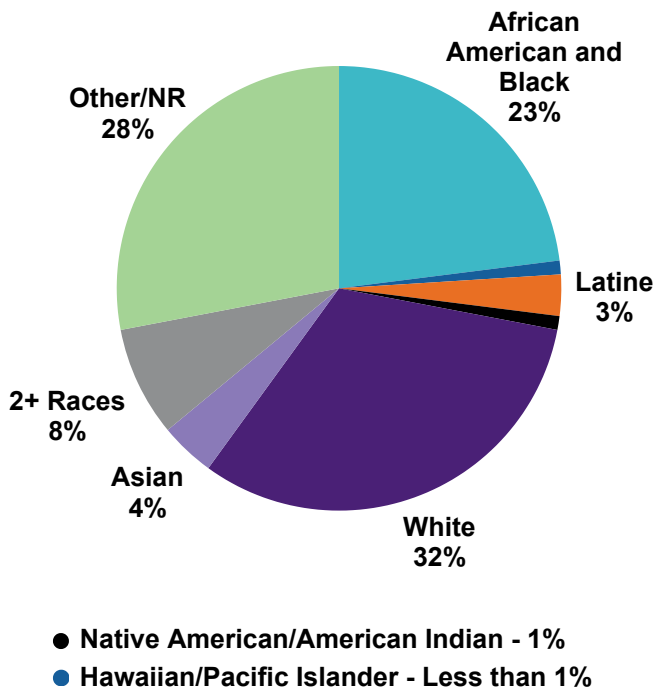
Survivors of sexual assault who seek therapeutic counseling are older. In 2025, **64%** of sexual assault therapeutic counseling clients were **25 years or older**. Survivors may not seek counseling immediately after an assault rather seeking later when the assault affects their quality of life.

# Sexual Assault Survivor Demographics

## SART Responses

## Counseling

### Race & Ethnicity



### Age

