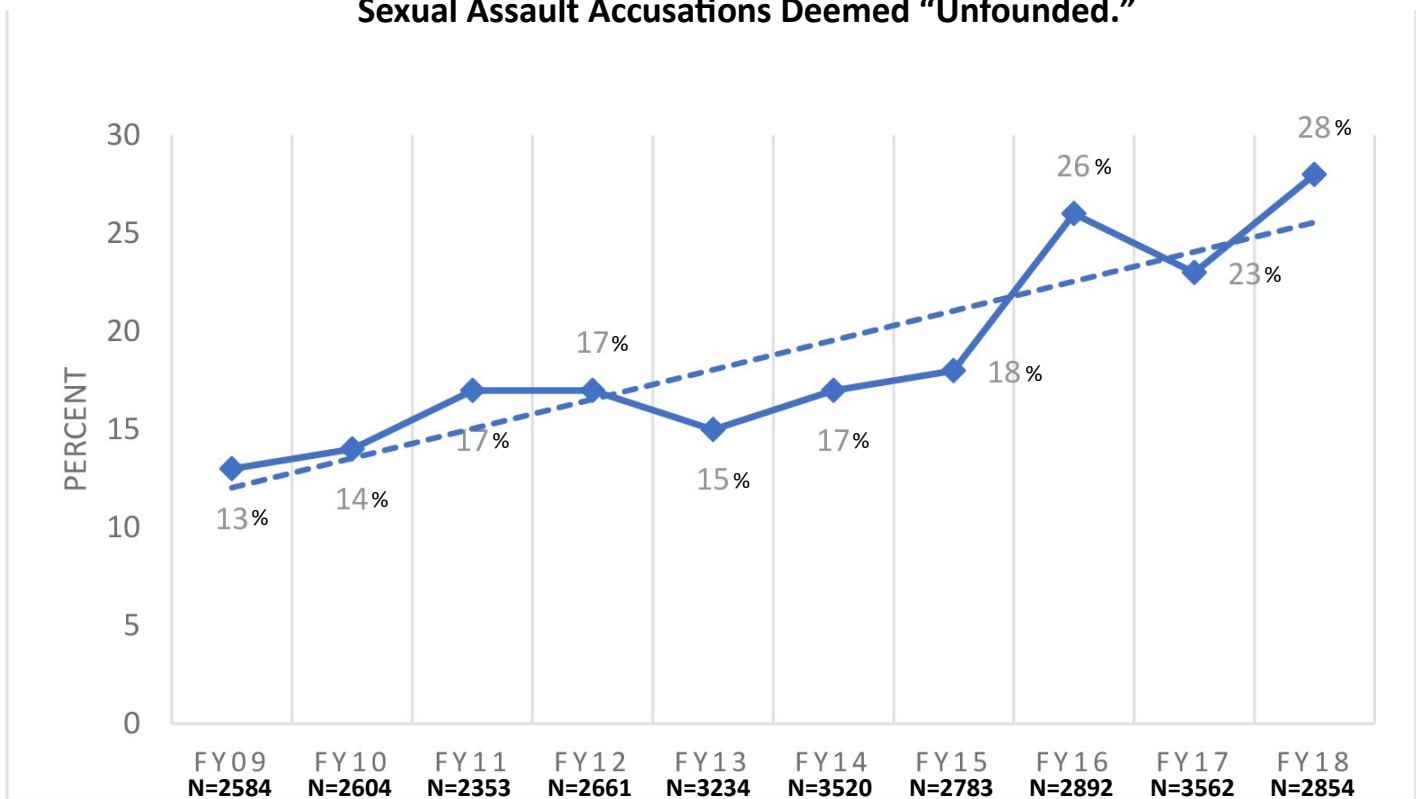


DoD Annual Reports Show Significant Increases in Sexual Assault Accusations Deemed “Unfounded.”



N = Sexual Assault Dispositions in Fiscal Year (FY) that could be considered for possible action by DoD commanders

The percentages and trend line in the graph above represent numbers of actual military sexual assault cases reported to the **Department of Defense Sexual Assault Prevention & Response Office (SAPRO)** each year. SAPRO report formats have varied since FY 2009, but most reports show the total number of cases considered by the Defense Department and include graphs reporting “Command Action Precluded.”

For example, the “Combined Action Precluded” table in the **FY 2018 SAPRO** report indicates that there were **735** cases with “Insufficient Evidence of Any Offense to Prosecute” and **74** with “Allegations Unfounded by Command/Legal Review.” (Appendix B: Statistical Data on Sexual Assault, Figure 9, Dispositions of Legal Authority, p. 19) These numbers total **809** or **28%** of the total number of reported cases. (N=2854)

Percentages shown do not include cases in the following categories: “Victim Declined to Participate in Justice Action,” “Statute of Limitations Expired,” or “Victim Died Before Completion of Justice Action.” Nor do they include estimates presented in the bi-annual Workplace and Gender Relations Survey of Active-Duty Servicemembers (WGRA) – an online survey conducted by RAND and other Defense Department contractors on a service-wide basis.

Sources are posted on the SAPRO website, www.sapr.mil. (Click on “SAPRO Reports” and “Annual Report Archives”) Numbers of unfounded allegations are explained as follows: “*When the allegations in an Unrestricted Report are investigated, one possible outcome is that the evidence discovered by the investigators demonstrates that the accused person did not commit the offense. Another possible outcome is that evidence shows that a crime did not occur. When either of these situations occurs, the allegations are determined to be unfounded.*” (SAPRO Report for FY 2014, Provisional Statistical Data on Sexual Assault, p. 29, Exhibit 16.)

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Graph prepared by the Center for Military Readiness (CMR), an independent, non-partisan public policy organization that reports on and analyzes military/social issues. More information is available on the CMR website, www.cmrlink.org.