

Sexual Violence Attitudes Survey Data

Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS)

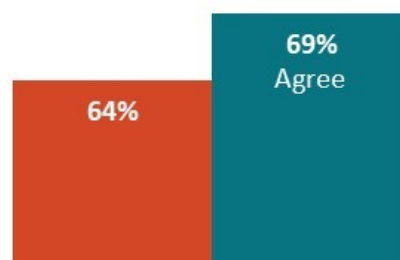
The BRFSS is a phone survey of adults in North Dakota that gathers information on behaviors related to chronic disease and injury. North Dakota asks four questions on attitudes related to sexual violence.

Prevention is Possible! Sexual violence is a serious and widespread problem, but the good news is it is preventable. Prevention requires many voices and roles. There are many ways individuals, communities, and the private sector can take action to promote safety, respect and equality.

What is prevention? Prevention aims to stop sexual violence before it has a chance to happen. It is possible to create communities where everyone is treated with respect and equality. This can be done by promoting safe behaviors, thoughtful policies, and healthy relationships. Prevention strategies that address the root causes and social norms that allow sexual violence to exist in the first place are the most effective. This means making the connection between all forms of oppression (including racism, sexism, homophobia, ableism, adultism, ageism, and others). Oppression creates a culture in which inequality thrives and violence is seen as normal. Many communities are already reducing the risk of sexual violence through efforts that promote safety, respect, equality and accountability.

31% of adults in North Dakota, don't agree that it is possible to prevent sexual violence.

Percentage **Agreeing** to Statement in BRFSS Survey



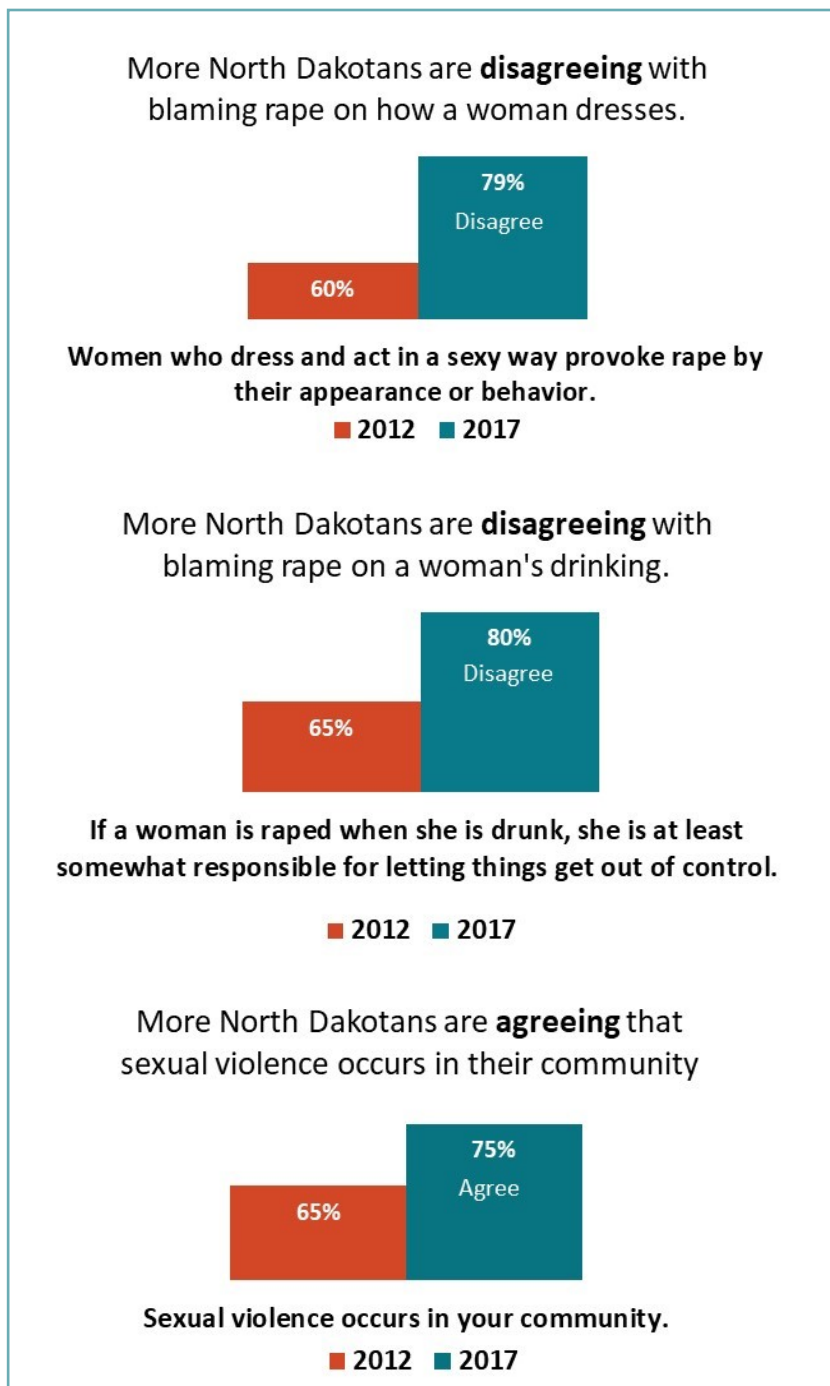
It is possible to prevent sexual violence.
■ 2012 ■ 2017

Why people might not agree? People have complex and sometimes conflicting feelings, doubts, and beliefs about sexual violence and the possibility of prevention. These feelings and beliefs are shaped by their own life experiences and values, the media, and how they understand the problem and why it happens.

While some people don't agree that prevention is possible; we are making an impact!

Examples of Prevention in Action!

- **Coaching Boys into Men** has coaches integrate messages about respectful relationships into regular coaching sessions.
- **Safe Dates** is a classroom curriculum that teaches middle school students how to identify and prevent dating violence.
- **Green Dot** uses a community team to coordinate trainings on how to intervene in potentially dangerous situations and promote positive social norms.
- **The 4th R** is a classroom-based program that teaches healthy living concepts with a focus on relationship goals.



The **North Dakota Rape Prevention and Education (RPE) Program** from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) supports **primary prevention efforts** which are designed to prevent violence **BEFORE** it occurs by changing social norms and attitudes that promote sexual violence.

Visit the **North Dakota Department of Health Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Prevention Toolkit** for ways to support primary prevention.
ndhealth.gov/injury/nd_Prevention_Tool_kit/

For more information contact

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North Dakota Domestic Violence/Rape Crisis Program
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