

2019-2022 Population & Services Assessment

March 2023

Equity & Access Program

2019-2022 Population & Services Assessment

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Introduction

The Maine Coalition Against Sexual Assault strives for all survivors and communities to have access to the services and information they need to respond to sexual violence. We believe that sexual violence happens in large part because of how our culture distributes resources and power. This happens both at person-to-person dynamics and at a community level. Having less power and fewer resources can make a person more at risk for sexual violence. Being part of a historically marginalized or erased community can also mean that person cannot access the information and resources they need to be safe and to heal.

Our approach to accessible and appropriate sexual violence services includes addressing the underlying power dynamics (also known as privilege and oppression) as well as addressing the practical barriers to support, healing, and information.

Over the past five years as our Equity and Access Program has grown, so have our tools for turning values of equity into priorities and programs. We believe there are multiple layers of work to do in parallel to achieve the goal of equitable and appropriate sexual violence support and information for all Mainers.

Our programmatic frame prioritizes:

1. Addressing **internal agency culture and workplace practices** including how decisions are made, workplace culture, programmatic priorities, and policies.
2. Offering **specialized support to staff** at local centers who hold historically marginalized identities.
3. Providing **population-specific resources and training** to member centers and allied providers.
4. Supporting and **funding local culturally-and-community-specific** programs and organizations.

Programmatic Frame



What this Assessment is

The first needs assessment of this kind was done in 2015 by Maine Intercultural Communication Consultants. MECASA did another assessment in 2018 – those publications and this one are designed to give MECASA and its member centers information about Maine’s population-specific survivors. The assessments identified strengths and gaps in service provision along with making recommendations for increasing accessible and appropriate services for all survivors in Maine.

We will continue to use this assessment to:

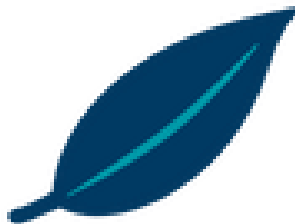
1. Determine **priority populations** for the next three years by identifying under-represented populations and/or gaps in services as reported by survivors and community partners.
2. Identify agencies or programs who are **successfully meeting population-specific needs**.
3. Provide sexual assault organizations and allied programs the **data** needed to create their own internal **programmatic priorities**.
4. Provide sexual assault organizations and allied programs the data needed to apply for **additional funding and grow their programs**.

What this Assessment isn’t

Turning survivor experiences into faceless data goes against the grain of our daily practices in the anti-sexual violence field. Empowerment, healing, and acquiring resources for survivors means training advocates in the skills of deep listening to honor an individual survivor’s complex, nuanced, and deeply personal needs. This assessment cannot capture or reflect those individual experiences or survivors’ compound identities in any meaningful way.

This assessment is not a replacement for being in relationship and conversation with providers who offer culturally-and-community specific services. The expertise that lives within those agencies is dynamic and responsive; to be knowledgeable about their work is an on-going practice in re-prioritization.

Finally, this assessment is not an adequate answer for those who never receive sexual assault services because they don’t know they exist, don’t know they are for them, don’t know how to find them, and/or because the services are not trusted.



Methodology

This assessment was conducted by:

1. **Attempting* to collecting data from survivors** of sexual assault who may or may not have received services from a local sexual assault center. We want to hear from folks who accessed services and also those who didn't. Surveys were distributed via social media, member centers, and allied providers.
2. **Reviewing ACQES survey** results in Empower DB. Survivors who receive services, information, and/or support from their local sexual assault center, have the opportunity to offer feedback via an anonymous survey. This survey is also the only place where survivors self-identify demographic information and link that to the quality of services received.
3. Reviewing 2019-2022 **statewide services data captured in Empower DB**.
4. Reviewing and updating United States Census Bureau 2020 **population demographics**.
5. Engaging in a literature review to obtain other **data related to prevalence of violence within subpopulations**, including Maine-specific victim service assessments and MECASA's annual Center Staff Needs Assessment.

A Note about Staff Identity

One of our programmatic priorities includes supporting member center staff and allied providers who hold historically marginalized identities. When staff at local sexual assault support centers reflect the demographics of the community they serve, it creates more accessible and appropriate community services.

There is a deeper trust and understanding between a survivor and their local sexual assault provider if they share culture, language, and experiences here in Maine. We hear that directly from multicultural/lingual advocates and it is reflected in national research. Culturally appropriate and trauma-informed practices lead to victim healing well beyond what mainstream service measures can provide.¹

Our 2022 needs assessment had a 99% response rate and current center staff identity information includes:

- 68% identified having experienced sexual violence
- 36% identified as LGBTQ+ (increased from 25% in 2021)
- 7% are BIPOC (decreased from 10% in 2021)
- 13% speak a language other than English (increased from 8% in 2021)
- 10% identified having a physical, intellectual, or developmental disability (increased from 3% in 2021)

1 in 3
sexual assault advocates
identifies as LGBTQAI2+

Many of the barriers that make it hard for survivors from historically marginalized communities to connect to local sexual assault support centers are the same barriers that make it hard for

¹ Serrata, S.V., Rodriguez, R., Castro, J.E., & Hernandez, M. (2019). Well-Being of Latina Survivors of Intimate Partner Violence and Sexual Assault Receiving Trauma-Informed and Culturally-Specific Services. *Journal of Family Violence*, 35(2), 169-180. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10896-019-00049-z>.

* Unlike previous years, sharing the survey on social media resulted in compromised data. Bots and spammers filled out the surveys with unusable data.

folks from those same communities to work at local organizations. Workplace culture (spoken and unspoken), fiscal priorities, community relationships, policy solutions, and the concept of **sexual assault services** are all steeped in dominant culture and require more learning and navigating as well as potential harm for staff holding historically marginalized identities.

Due to these realities, in 2021, we started adding demographic data to MECASA's annual [Member Needs Assessment](#). While the numbers are too small to offer statistical significance, we can look for trends, concerns, or feedback we haven't received elsewhere.

Here are some anecdotal take-aways from our 2022 assessment:

- The population who experienced the biggest change in quality of technical assistance from MECASA is BIPOC member center staff, and for the most part, the changes were positive.
- The areas where specific population groups experienced the most negative (comparative) experience of technical assistance was disabled staff accessing trainings and staff who speak other languages than English in receiving individual support.
- Holding one or more historically marginalized identities increases the chances that a staff member is considering leaving their organization:
 - Survivor center staff are 49% more likely to be considering/have plans to leave;
 - Disabled center staff are 158% more likely;
 - LGBTQAI2+ staff are 54% more likely;
 - BIPOC staff are 133% more likely; and
 - Staff who speak languages other than English are 78% more likely.

What we see here reflects the reality that individuals who hold historically marginalized identities need specialized support as an antidote to conditions that are impacting staff leaving across the state.



2018 Recommendations Review

In reviewing the 2018 assessment, MECASA and member programs have meaningfully integrated many of the 2018 recommendations, and then some. There are many we are still working on, others yet to begin and others are a very, very long game, but progress has been made.

Below are the 2018 recommendations and the status of MECASA initiatives and projects.



Prioritize population-specific training, partnerships, and outreach for statistically underserved populations – older adults, individuals with disabilities, and transgender survivors.

Older Adults

In the past three years MECASA participated in the launch of the Governor Mills-supported Elder Justice Partnership, which produced The Maine [Elder Justice Roadmap](#) (2021). MECASA and member center staff have been active members of the [Maine Council for Elder Abuse Prevention](#) and sexual violence was a focus of the [2022 annual Elder Abuse Summit](#). MECASA offered cross-training to [adult protective services case workers](#) on the identification and support of older survivors of sexual violence.

Plans over the next year or two include enhancing the already strong multidisciplinary response to older adults experiencing sexual violence by considering expansion of advocacy centers for adults based on the Children's Advocacy Center model to cases of elder abuse. We have included Legal Services for the Elderly in our 2022 visioning discussions and continue to explore cross-training and their expanding advocacy services with Elder Abuse Institute of Maine.

Individuals with Disabilities

As this assessment is wrapping up, Disability Rights Maine (DRM) has been awarded a three-year Office of Violence Against Women (OVW) Disabilities Grant starting in FY23. We are so excited for this partnership and the opportunities the grant brings to Maine. This is an example of our approach to population-specific collaboration; we began discussions with DRM about increased collaboration and cross-training in 2021. An overview of supports and services for adults with developmental disabilities through Adult Protective Services was featured at the [2021 Affinity meeting](#).

It was through two years of conversations, cross-training, and guidance from Indiana Disability Justice that the path of collaboration appeared and it centered DRM, very intentionally, the lead and recipient of the OVW funding. This aligns with our commitment to funding community-specific providers who have the population expertise and trust and will build programming out of a collaboration with those providers and local sexual assault support centers.



These DRM efforts were supported by MECASA's first internal Disabilities Workgroup to look at our internal cross-program prioritization to support survivors and communities with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Disability justice and access was the focus at the 2021 and 2022 MECASACons, including [Disability Justice Keynote speaker](#) Lydia X. Z. Brown and Indiana Disability Justice technical assistance and [two MECASACon workshop sessions](#), where Speaking Up for Us & DRM were guests presenters.

Trans & Non-binary Survivors

The core of our trans advocacy work is our relationship with Maine TransNet (MTN). While below is the list of concrete offerings, much of our time together is an exchange of support and technical assistance (TA) based on our respective expertise. MECASA has provided technical assistance to MTN's growing sexual assault program, including accessing different funding sources, budget and finance support, and state and federal compliance navigation. MTN provides on-going training and TA to member center and MECASA staff on services and outreach best practice, program prioritization, and their population-specific data.



Programming with and/or by MTN over the past three years includes the following:

- In 2019 MTN and MECASA co-presented at the National Sexual Assault Conference: *Creating Trans Specific Survivor Support Groups*.
- Since its inception in 2020, 225 individuals, including **many** sexual assault advocates, attended Maine TransNet's 8-hour *Annual Training for SA/DV Advocates*.
- Since 2020, 8 volunteer MTN Facilitators have attended a *40-hour Foundations of Advocacy Training* at local sexual assault support center.
- In 2020 MTN developed Maine's first *Transgender Community Survey Data Report on Sexual, Domestic, and Physical Violence* and received over 400 responses and incredibly rich data.
- In 2020 MTN developed its Sexual Assault Program and hired its 1st Coordinator.
- At the 2021 MECASACon MTN presented the workshop: [Gender Inclusion at Your Agency](#) and sat on our lunchtime panel: [Reflections from Culturally and Community Specific Agencies](#).
- 2021: Presentation by MTN, of a webinar for member centers and allied providers: [Maine Transgender Community Survey Data Report on Sexual, Domestic, and Physical Violence report](#).
- In 2022, Maine TransNet received the *Visionary Voice Award* from the National Sexual Violence Resource Center.

Between 2020 - 2022 Maine TransNet & Maine's
Sexual Assault Support Centers supported*

161 trans
survivors

(an increase of 300% compared to 2018-2019)

*65 at MTN/96 at SASCs



Commit resources to services that support multiple underserved or marginalized populations of survivors, like language access, co-delivered services, and ongoing assessment and reflection on these issues as an agency.

The Language Access Project at MECASA was launched in earnest following the 2018 needs assessment. Our activities to date include:

- Development of a [model language access policy](#) for all local centers and MECASA. This policy is based on national best practices and support from the Office of Violence Against Women (OVW) technical assistance provider, the Asian Pacific Institute on Gender Based Violence.
- Re-establishment of a contract and relationship with Certified Languages, the telephone language line for member centers.
- Development of a 22-page [Language Access Guidance](#) document for center staff, including guidance on finding and screening interpreters, identification of best practices, and language access checklists.
- Commitment to offering an annual *Language Access & Interpretation* training for all member center staff, coordinated by MECASA.
- Coordination of training (in 2021) on working with American Sign Language interpreting and communicating with individuals with disabilities.
- Development of a system for the statewide translation of vital documents by MECASA.
- Production of printed outreach materials designed for folks with lower literacy and/or English as 2nd language. All materials were reviewed by multilingual partners and multilingual/multicultural advocates.
- Creation of [Training Access Guidance](#) for MECASA and center staff to ensure accessibility for all trainings provided to advocates and allied providers.

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Use sexual assault support center-specific data and local needs assessments to create individualized plans regarding population-specific programs and outreach.

MECASA gathers and distributes individual center EmpowerDB demographic data as a commitment to this practice.

Following last year's language access training, MECASA, Catholic Charities, and Immigrant Resources Center of Maine met with each center to think through implementation of a new language access policy based on community-level needs.

This population services assessment continues to be our most significant opportunity to reflect on statewide services and prevalence data specific to population-specific survivors.



Support, train, collaborate with, and fund population-specific agencies and programs who work with survivors from underserved or marginalized populations.

Based on this needs assessment and continued reflection, we are committed to receiving training directly from allied providers working with historically marginalized populations. We are also committed to paying population-specific providers for their time and expertise when they do provide trainings.

Trainings about historically marginalized populations delivered by population specific providers or individuals with lived experience include:

- Language Access & Interpretation – Catholic Charities & Immigrant Resource Center of Maine
- ASL Interpretation & Access – Jenn McCann & Disability Rights Maine Deaf Services
- Reframe Health & Justice: Sex Work, Sexual Violence, and Sex Trafficking Training – Kate D’Adamo
- Maine Military Victim Services Sexual Assault Prevention & Response – Bobby Jo Rogers, SAPRs Program
- Maine Transgender Community Survey Results – Quinn Gormley, Maine TransNet
- Racial Equity Training series - Mindbridge & Up with Community
- Adultification of Girls of Color and LGBTQ+ Youth – Valeria & Andrew, SARSSM

MECASACon workshops:

- Lydia X.Z. Brown – MECASACon Keynote 2021
- Gender Inclusion at your Agency – Maya Williams, Maine TransNet
- Culturally & Community Specific Organization Panel – Maliseet Domestic and Sexual Violence Advocacy Center, Maine TransNet, Immigrant Resource Center of Maine, and Maine Boys to Men
- Practicing Disability Justice Through Sexual Violence Primary Prevention – Indiana Disability Justice
- Re-Entry in Maine: Community, Trauma, Connection, and Recovery – Maine Prisoners Re-entry Network
- Empowering Youth to Lead Cultural Change – SafeBAE
- The Anti-Ableist Advocate & Educator – Disability Rights Maine and Speaking Up for Us

We also continue to provide free training for non-member programs working in the field of anti-sexual violence. Advocates and coordinators from the Maine National Guard, Maine TransNet staff and facilitators, Disability Rights Maine, and the Department of Corrections have received training from MECASA over the past three years.



Make a plan for future needs assessment to include more input from survivors and programs serving survivors from underserved or marginalized populations.

This assessment includes an additional layer of survivor feedback (from the ACQES surveys and multilingual survivor surveys) and we know there is more work to be done for meaningful engagement and feedback from survivors.

Our next phase of equity and access work needs to focus on how to be in conversation with more survivors and population-specific providers to ensure both services and information are accessible and appropriate for all communities and people in Maine.



Review of Population-specific Data

The following section looks at statistics by population, specifically service statistics and national and statewide statistics. The purpose is to look for places of strength or gaps in serving a particular population and offer resources to support services.

See the appendix for center-specific, comparative 2016-2022 statistics.

Youth under 18

National prevalence statistics tell us 1 in 4 girls and 1 in 13 boys in the United States experience child sexual abuse.² Someone known and trusted by the child or the child's family members, perpetrates 91% of child sexual abuse.³

The chart below reflects percentage of clients who are under 18-years-old and received services from a local sexual assault support center and/or the Children's Advocacy Centers (CAC). For example, in 2019 25% of all clients were under 18.

Looking at 2019-2022 stat – 5,023 minor survivors received support, 75% (3800) of whom got services at their local CAC and the other 25% at the sexual assault support center.

Age	2019	2020	2021	2022	Maine pop. ⁴
Under 10	7% (329)	8% (310)	10% (479)	10% (506)	9.9%
10 to 13	7% (349)	8% (314)	7% (328)	7% (382)	5.4%
14 to 17	9% (429)	11% (430)	12% (580)	10% (542)	5.8%
Under 18	25%	28%	30%	26%	18.7%
Total Clients	4873	3925	4622	5220	1.36 mil

Since we started tracking via EmpowerDB, services to survivors under 18 and their families have consistently and significantly increased. We associate this growth with the growth of Children's Advocacy Centers in Maine. By 2023, five of Maine's CACs are accredited with an anticipated 6th by 2023, and the newly launch Downeast CAC makes **seven** CACs up and running!

Take Aways

When we develop programs with a specific population's needs in mind, along with support for implementation and consistency throughout the state, we see an increase in meeting survivors needs.

² Finkelhor D, Shattuck A, Turner HA, Hamby SL. The lifetime prevalence of child sexual abuse and sexual assault assessed in late adolescence. Retrieved at: <https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/childsexualabuse/fastfact.html> (2022).

³ Finkelhor, D., & Shattuck, A. (2012). Characteristics of crimes against juveniles. Durham, NH: Crimes Against Children Research Center. Retrieved at: <https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/childsexualabuse/fastfact.html> (2022)

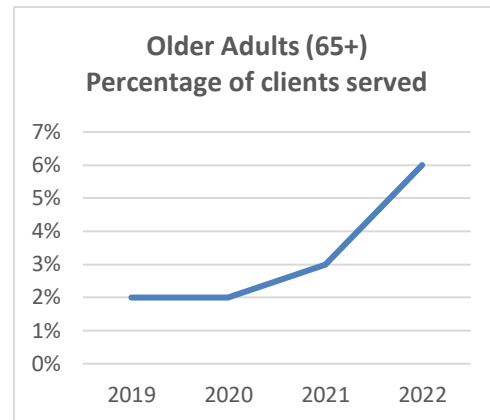
⁴ U.S. Census Bureau. (2020). *Maine State Profile*.

That said, we know the establishment of robust (and accredited) Children’s Advocacy Centers is a good entry point for cases where there has already been a disclosure to law enforcement or DHHS Child Protective Services. But we want to make sure our confidence in CACs doesn’t leave behind those minors who don’t need with CAC services or those adults needing specialized support for the child in their life or their own childhood sexual abuse experience. When looking at services accessed by minor or about Child Sexual Abuse that don’t have a systemic entry point

Older Adults over 65

Maine has the oldest median age in the country. Over one-fifth of the population is over the age of 65 and Maine’s median age rose 1.9 years from 2010 to 2019.⁵ Studies indicate that one out of ten adults aged 60 and older have experienced abuse in the past year and that over 40,000 Mainers aged 60 and older experienced some form of abuse in 2020.⁶ It is also estimated that 9% of those 65 and over live below the poverty line.⁷

Age is a critical factor for risk and vulnerability to sexual assault. While both younger and older people share the characteristic of having caregivers trusted with their health and safety, many older sexual abuse victims are not receiving help. Social stigma may prevent older individuals from discussing sexual activities or reporting sexual violence, especially if the perpetrator is a family member.⁸



Individuals over 65 served

	2019	2020	2021	2022	Maine pop.
Number of clients	11	14	12	33	280,160
Percentage of clients	.2%	.2%	.3%	.6%	20.6%
Total Clients	4873	3925	4622	5220	-

Take aways

We have seen the services provided to survivors over the age of 65 **double** in the past two years. This is an exciting number, because programmatically we have been prioritizing foundation-building efforts, as opposed to building new outreach programs or partnerships. There is no doubt that, in 2020, COVID impacted advocates’ ability to provide community

⁵ U.S. Census Bureau. (2020). *Maine State Profile*.

⁶ Bergeron-Smith, J., Grey, A., Dumont, R., Murray, C., Shaler, G., Wynne, C., & Snell, E. (2022). *State of Maine Victim Needs Assessment: 2022*. Catherine Cutler Institute. University of Southern Maine.

⁷ Bergeron-Smith, J., Grey, A., Dumont, R., Murray, C., Shaler, G., Wynne, C., & Snell, E. (2022). *State of Maine Victim Needs Assessment: 2022*. Catherine Cutler Institute. University of Southern Maine.

⁸ Burgess Clements, 2006; NSVRC, 2010.

outreach and for older adults to participate in community events. The increase in our numbers means there is an actual increase in the numbers of older adults being served is promising – either more people over 65 are receiving services and/or we’re doing a better job at identifying them. Either way, the increase means more information by which to better serve older adults.

At this time, we think our next steps focus on the Elder Justice Roadmap and a more formal collaboration between sexual assault services and Adult Protective Services to explore models for supporting older adults.

Men & Boys

At least 1 in 6 men have been sexually abused or assaulted.⁹ And men in specific subpopulations have a much greater risk of experiencing sexual violence – especially male children and youth; gay, queer, and transgender individuals; and incarcerated individuals.

There are many reasons sexual assault services have been viewed as for and by women. Part of that is the numbers and reality that women experience sexual violence by men at extraordinary rates. Also, the rate of rape is four and a half times higher for females (37%) than it is for males (8%). The other part of that perception was the dominant narrative by white feminists who founded the movement and centered the experience of sexism and misogyny, which play an undoubtedly huge role. However, the result was leaving out others who didn’t share a similar life or experience.

This cultural dynamic has resulted in women are more likely to receive help after experiencing a crime. The most recent State of Maine Needs Assessment for VOCA funds cites female crime victims in Maine, at 17%, being more likely than male victims, at 6%, to seek services.¹⁰ We want to be sure survivors of all genders can receive accessible and appropriate services, but numbers like this indicate specialized services or outreach for men should be considered.

Men & Boys

	2019	2020	2021	2022	Maine pop.
Number of clients	906	757	936	976	-
Percentage of clients	19%	19%	20%	19%	49.7%
Number under 18	53	34	71	44	-
Total Clients	4873	3925	4622	5220	

Take aways

Knowing how many survivors need services but are not accessing them is our perennial puzzle. Are these numbers in alignment with community need? Maybe they are more than other populations, but we don’t actually know. We also haven’t prioritized the needs and specialized

⁹ Dube, S.R., Anda, R.F., Whitfield, C.L., et al. (2005) Long-term consequences of childhood sexual abuse by gender of victim. *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*, 28, 430-438.

¹⁰ Bergeron-Smith, J., Grey, A., Dumont, R., Murray, C., Shaler, G., Wynne, C., & Snell, E. (2022). *State of Maine Victim Needs Assessment: 2022*. Catherine Cutler Institute. University of Southern Maine.

services available for male survivors in the past three years based on our last Populations & Services Assessment.

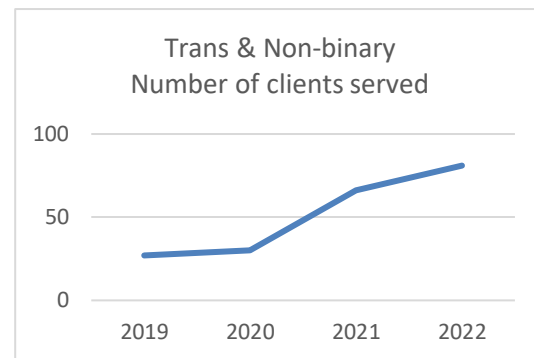
This feels like a great time for MECASA to explore a focus group, get updated on some national practices, and check in on content experts for what comes next in support for male survivors.

Transgender & Non-binary

In 2021 Maine TransNet performed a community survey on experiences of sexual assault and domestic violence. Comprehensive and thoughtful, the feedback from over 400 transgender Mainers paints a picture that both affirms what we have heard for years from our partners, but also offers insights to solutions and priorities.

*Maine Transgender Community Survey Data Report on Sexual, Domestic, and Physical Violence*¹¹ key takeaways:

- 70% of transgender Mainers have experienced sexual assault
- 82.7% of transgender Mainers have never sought support from a local domestic violence or sexual assault agency
- For folks who have obtained this support, 42% had not yet come out or realized they were transgender and 30% attempted to keep their transgender status a secret
- 6.5% of transgender Mainers find law enforcement “mostly supportive”
- It starts young –
 - The median age of first sexual assault for transgender children in Maine was 11 years old
 - The median age of first suicide attempt was 15 years old
 - 83% of transgender survivors experienced sexual assault before they were 18 years old
- Transition appears to be a protective factor – rates of sexual violence experienced by transgender folks go DOWN after someone begins to live in the world in their authentic gender. 83% of transgender survivors experienced sexual assault before this takes place.



Trans & Non-binary

	2019	2020	2021	2022
Number of clients	27	30	66	81
Percentage of clients	.5%	.7%	1.4%	1.5%
Total Clients	4873	3925	4622	5220

¹¹ Gormley, Q., Jones, O. G., & Williams, M. (2021). (rep.). *Maine Transgender Community Survey Data Report on Sexual, Domestic, and Physical Violence*. Maine Transgender Network INC. Retrieved from https://reporting.alchemer.com/r/701290_615daa71163931.59294933.

Take aways

Services to transgender Mainers have tripled in the last 3 years, and this doesn't include the 65¹² individuals who have received support via Maine TransNet's sexual assault program since 2020.

Between 2020-2022, five survivors who identify as "trans and gender-nonconforming" voluntarily submitted answers to our client services survey. Of those, 100% said staff "respected my needs, identity, and background," and all of them said, "I would use these services again or recommend them to a friend".¹³

We see this increase in services provided as reflective of increased knowledge, skills, and partnerships with Maine TransNet, and there are great opportunities for further collaboration and expansion of services if we remain connected. Formalizing cross-training requirements, looking into cross-referral protocols, and MOUs are our next steps.

People of Color

Maine, the state with the least amount of racial or ethnic diversity in the nation, has very limited data regarding survivors of color. According to the 2020 census, most Mainers identify as White (91%).¹⁴

However, over the last decade, almost all (95%) of Maine's total population growth has been due to non-White populations. Even though individuals that identify as Black/African American make up a relatively small percentage of the state's population, this percentage has almost quadrupled in twenty years, climbing from 0.5% in 2000 to 1.9% in 2020.

Additionally, an estimated 87,217 immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers live throughout Maine, and newly arrived asylum seekers are predominantly Black, African.¹⁰ Relatedly, Maine's two largest cities Portland and Lewiston, continue to be more diverse than much of the rest of the state with 15.4% of Portland's residents and 13.4% of Lewiston's residents identify as a race other than White. In 2019, 34% of Portland's public school students and 28% of Lewiston's public school students did not use English as their primary language.

- *State of Maine Victim Needs Assessment: 2022.* Catherine Cutler Institute

In any environment, racial and ethnic minorities experience more sexual violence than white people, as well as greater barriers in accessing culturally appropriate and affirming services.

In 2022, two different Maine-specific reports were prepared by The Catherine Cutler Institute in collaboration with the Maine Department of Health and Human Services that affirmed this experience for people of color in Maine:

¹² Maine TransNet. (2023). Internal program data retrieved from Maya Williams 1/20/23.

¹³ MECASA service statistics 2020 – 2022 (2023). Retrieved via EmpowerDB 1/6/23.

¹⁴ U.S. Census Bureau. (2020). *Maine State Profile*.

- Persons of color were more likely to be the victims of any and every type of crime except identity crime, and this remained true even after controlling for differences in income.¹⁵
- Persons of color were more likely to have experienced rape over their lifetime, at 36%, than non-Hispanic White persons, at 22%.¹⁶
- Persons of color were twice as likely to have experienced stalking (31%) than non-Hispanic White persons (15%).¹⁷
- Persons of color experienced the highest rate of violent crime, at 17%, compared with non-Hispanic White respondents, at 4%.¹⁸
- Persons of color experienced a higher rate of lifetime trafficking, at 12%, compared with non-Hispanic White persons, at 2%.¹⁹

Between 2019-2022 approximately 50% of persons of color who received services from sexual assault support centers in Maine did so from the culturally specific agency. And Black or African American survivors were served at a higher rate than their representation within the population as a whole.

Race	2019	2020	2021	2022	Maine pop.
American Indian / Alaskan Native	1% 58	1% 28	1% 37	1% 52	1% 7,885
Asian	22	13	19	16	1% 16,798
Black	3% 141	2% 97	4% 185	3% 170	2% 25,752
Hispanic or Latino	1% 43	1% 33	1% 59	1% 56	2% 26,609
Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander	6	3	2	1	443
White	60% 2937	61% 2399	61% 2875	55% 2857	91% 1,237,041
Multi-racial	1% 61	2% 72	2% 98	1% 77	5% 64,710
Other	19	11	1%	5	9,730
Unknown	32%	32%	30%	38%	-
Total Clients	4873	3925	4622	5220	-

¹⁵ Bergeron-Smith, J., Grey, A., Dumont, R., Murray, C., Shaler, G., Wynne, C., & Snell, E. (2022). *State of Maine Victim Needs Assessment: 2022*. Catherine Cutler Institute. University of Southern Maine.

¹⁶ Ibid.

¹⁷ Bergeron-Smith, J., Grey, A., Dumont, R., Murray, C., Shaler, G., Wynne, C., & Snell, E. (2022). *State of Maine Victim Needs Assessment: 2022*. Catherine Cutler Institute. University of Southern Maine.

¹⁸ Murray, C., Dumont, R., & Shaler, G. (2022). *2022 Maine Crime Victimization Report: Informing Public Policy for Safer Communities*. Maine Statistical Analysis Center. University of Southern Maine.

¹⁹ Ibid.

Between 2020-2022, 179 survivors who identified as Black, African American, Latinx or Hispanic, Multi-racial, or other race voluntarily submitted answers to our client services survey. Of those, 99% said staff “respected my needs, identity, and background,” and 97% said, “I would use these services again or recommend them to a friend”.²⁰

A Note About Race and Culture

In Maine the community known very broadly as People of Color can be conflated with the needs and experiences of the community known as Immigrants, Refugees, and Asylum seekers. We understand that a Black person born and raised in Maine has different community, cultural, and resources needs than the Black person born in Eastern Africa who fled their home.

So, we wanted to look closer at race data for non-immigrant Black Mainers and continue to think about support for that population. That said, given how our data is set up, we can’t pull apart “Immigrant/Refugee/Asylum-seeker,” but we can look at where Black Mainers were served across the state. Below are 2020 and 2021 statistics for Black and Multi-racial Mainers served at local sexual assault support centers.

	2020 statewide	2020 IRCM	2020 SASCs	2021 statewide	2021 IRCM	2021 SASCs	2022 statewide	2022 IRCM	2022 SASCs	Maine pop.
Black	97 2%	24 100%	73 1.9%	185 4%	117 99%	68 1.5%	170 3%	71 100%	99 1.9%	25,752 2%
Multi-racial	72 1.9%	0	72 1.9%	98 2%	0	98 2%	77 1%	0	77 1%	64,710 5%

Take aways

Even if we see some reflections in our data that Black survivors are being served, this doesn’t address the lack of community specific space, services, and information for BIPOC Mainers who are not immigrants, refugees, or asylum seekers. A programmatic goal is to find those BIPOC serving organizations interested in growing their anti-sexual assault efforts.

Intellectual and physical disabilities

Individuals with disabilities are one of the populations at highest risk for sexual victimization, and experience rape or sexual assault at more than three times the rate of the general population.²¹ These rates are highest among individuals with cognitive or intellectual disabilities, and individuals with multiple types of disability experience much more violent crime than those with only one type of disability.

Individuals with disabilities are at significant risk for experiencing sexual violence: Sexual violence victimization prevalence rates for people with intellectual or developmental disabilities (IDD) is estimated to be as high as 65-98% over the course of a lifetime (Elman, 2005; Valenti-Hein & Schwartz, 1995).

²⁰ MECASA service statistics 2020 – 2022 (2023). Retrieved via EmpowerDB 1/6/23.

²¹ Bureau of Justice Statistics (July 2017) . “Crime Against Persons With Disabilities, 2009-2015 – Statistical Tables.” Retrieved from <https://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/capd0915st.pdf> (pg. 3).

A 2013 brief by Vera Institute of Justice indicates children with disabilities are at greater risk for SV than those without disabilities and “children with intellectual and mental health disabilities appear to be most at risk, with 4.6 times the risk of sexual abuse as their peers without disabilities” (Smith & Harrell, 2013, p. 4).

Cierra Olivia Thomas Williams Indiana Disability Justice²²

11.6% or approximately 157,760 of Mainers under 65 years old have at least one disability.²³ Due to these high prevalence statistics and relatively low services statistics, this was a priority population based on our 2018 Services & Population assessment recommendations.

Between 2020-2022, 32 survivors who identify as having a physical or cognitive disability voluntarily submitted answers to our client services survey. Of those, 100% said staff “respected my needs, identity, and background,” and all of them said, “I would use these services again or recommend them to a friend”.²⁴

Individuals with disabilities served

	2019	2020	2021	2022	Maine pop.
Number of clients	27	30	66	81	157,760
Percentage of clients	.5%	.7%	1.5%	1.5%	11.6% ²⁵
Total Clients	4873	3925	4622	5220	-

Take aways

Referenced in the 2018 Recommendations Review our work with Disability Rights Maine and Speaking Up for Us, we’re excited to dedicate MECASA staff time – administrative, services, AND prevention – to the DRM 2022 OVW Disabilities grant and build a strategy together to better support Mainers with disabilities.

Between Maine’s population of individuals with disabilities (11.6%) and the high prevalence within this population, the number of survivors with disabilities receiving services (average: 1%) is much lower than we’d like to see.

Some of the goals in the coming years will include developing a strategic planning team that can meaningfully integrate the lived experienced of individuals with disabilities and create survivor-driven solutions. It will also be interesting to keep an eye on referral sources. At this moment most individuals with disabilities are connected to services via the statewide helpline (27) or

²² Thomas Williams, C. O. Disparities in Data Collection Methods. *Indiana Disability Justice*. Retrieved from: <https://indisabilityjustice.org/disparities-in-data-collection-methods/>.

²³ U.S. Census Bureau. (2020). *Maine State Profile*.

²⁴ MECASA service statistics 2020 – 2022 (2023). Retrieved via EmpowerDB 1/6/23.

²⁵ U.S. Census Bureau. (2020). *Maine State Profile*.

through DHHS Child Welfare (22). As we increase partnerships with disability-serving agencies, we hope the referral numbers in both directions would increase.

Economic and Shelter Insecurity

Poverty remains a stark reality throughout Maine. One in nine Mainers (11%)²⁶ are living below the poverty line, and many of them are people of color. 37% of Mainers who identified as Black or African Americans lived below the poverty level, as well as 34% of Native Americans, 21% of Hispanic or Latinos, and 12% of those identifying as White or Asian.²⁷

Maine’s newest (and largest to date) victimization study highlights for us that individuals with less income and fewer resources experience higher rates of all type of violence.²⁸

- Respondents with household incomes of less than \$75,000 were more likely to experience rape/attempted rape in their lifetimes, at 28%, compared with those with lower incomes, at 17%.
- Respondents with lower household incomes (less than \$50,000) were more likely to experience stalking, at 22%, while those with higher household income (\$50,000 or more), were less likely to experience stalking, at 13%.
- Respondents with household incomes of under \$25,000 were more likely to have been a victim of trafficking in their lifetime, at 6%, than those with higher incomes, at 3%.
- Respondents currently in lower household income brackets (less than \$75,000) were more likely than their counterparts with incomes of \$75,000 or more per year to experience rape in their lifetimes at 28%, compared with 17%.

Respondents with household incomes of under \$25,000 had a lifetime rate of trafficking of 6%, compared with those with higher incomes with a rate of 3%.³⁰ That same report told us that, overall, victims in lower household income brackets (less than \$50,000) were twice as likely, at a rate of 18%, to seek services as those in higher brackets, at 9%.³¹

Homeless Individuals Served

	2019	2020	2021	2022	Maine pop.
Number of clients	142	139	118	169	3,455 ²⁹
Number connected at shelter or community space	47	11	20	17	-
Percentage of clients	3%	3.5%	2.5%	3%	2.5%
Total Clients	4873	3925	4622	5220	-

²⁶ Ibid.

²⁷ Maine Equal Justice (2021). “The State of Poverty in Maine.” Retrieved from: https://maineequaljustice.org/site/assets/files/2284/stateofpovertyinmaine8_5x11_1-4-21.pdf

²⁹ Bader, Emily (2022, Dec 4). How Homeless People are Counted in Maine. *Kennebec Journal*. Retrieved from: <https://www.centralmaine.com/2022/12/04/how-homeless-people-are-counted-in-maine>.

³⁰ Bergeron-Smith, J., Grey, A., Dumont, R., Murray, C., Shaler, G., Wynne, C., & Snell, E. (2022). *State of Maine Victim Needs Assessment: 2022*. Catherine Cutler Institute. University of Southern Maine.

³¹ Ibid.

Although those in lower income households were more likely to seek services, there are still many economic barriers to access them, such as transportation, reliable internet, and/or reliable cell phones. Economic insecurity may result in housing instability or homelessness as well. Homeless individuals experience some of the highest rates of sexual violence. In a survey of homeless women conducted by Preble Street, 44 percent reported being a victim of sexual assault since becoming homeless.³² National studies show that number is a little lower; according to a 2003 study of homeless and marginally housed people, 32% of women, 27% of men, and 38% of transgender individuals reported either physical or sexual victimization in the previous year.³³ And when mental illness is added as a risk factor, prevalence explodes: lifetime risk for violent victimization for homeless women with mental illness is 97%.³⁴

As a field, sexual assault programs haven't historically been in the business of sheltering or housing individuals, yet we are hearing loudly from advocates that without basic needs being addressed, like safe permanent housing, medical and mental health care, transportation, and communication (cell phone and internet), survivors feel unsafe and healing can't take place. In a study of rural women who had been sexually assaulted, the women indicated that without housing, other services to address the violence were not likely to be helpful.³⁵

\$15,440
was distributed by SASCs from the Survivor
Emergency Fund 2021-2022

We have heard from advocates, in conversations and in our annual needs assessment, that meeting basic needs must be a collective priority. So, in 2021, working with funds from the Department of Health and Human Services, MECASA created the Survivor Emergency Fund for survivors, designed to address some of these gaps. In the last two years MECASA has distributed \$15,440.61 for 38 survivors covering needs such as: transportation, security deposits, cell phones, mental health care, and rent.³⁶

Take aways

We continue to see evidence that safe, affordable, and appropriate housing is tied to healing and safety. Access to reliable transportation and communication with a support system (via cell phone and internet) is necessary for healing and safety. We should continue to reflect on how much to prioritize programming and policy advocacy based on the basic needs and resources we can distribute broadly to all Mainers. We can frame this work as both deeply necessary outreach

³² McLaughlin, Thomas Chalmers, PhD (March 2009). Women and Homelessness: Understanding Risk Factors and Strategies for Recovery. Preble Street Reports.

³³ Kushel, M., Evans, J., Perry, S., Robertson, M., & Moss, A. (2003). No door to lock: Victimization among homeless and marginally housed persons. *Archives of Internal Medicine*, 163(20).

³⁴ Goodman, L., Fels, K., & Glenn, C. (2006). No safe place: Sexual assault in the lives of homeless women. Harrisburg, PA: VAWnet.

³⁵ Logan, TK, Evans, L., Stevenson, E., & Jordan C. E. (2005). Barriers to services for rural and urban survivors of rape. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, 20, 591-616. doi:10.1177/0886260504272899.

³⁶ Maine Coalition Against Sexual Assault (2023). MECASA Emergency Fund internal database tracking system.

and intervention services (see mentally ill, homeless women’s universal experience of sexual violence) and an opportunity for radical prevention.

Of the 568 homeless individuals serviced by sexual assault support centers, 17% of those were connected via shelter and community outreach. Referral statistics don’t give us much insight on how folks are connected to services if not via outreach, so it would be interesting to explore the needs of homeless survivors more thoroughly.

LGBTQAI2+

The 2020 Maine Youth Integrated Health Survey shows us that young LGBTQAI2+ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Asexual, Intersex, and 2 Spirit) Mainers experience sexual harassment and violence at much higher rates than their straight and cisgender peers.³⁷

LGBTQAI2+ students are almost **ten times** more likely to experience offensive comments or attacks due to their perceived sexual orientation (sexual harassment and a violation of Title IX), and 31% have been forced to have sexual contact in their lifetime (compared with 9% of their straight and cisgender peers).³⁸

Since 2016
the number of LGBTQAI2+
survivors seeking services
at local sexual assault
support centers has grown

6x

Between 2020-2022, 33 survivors who identify as “lesbian, gay, bisexual, queer” voluntarily submitted answers to our client services survey. Of those, 94% said staff “respected my needs, identity, and background,” and the same number said, “I would use these services again or recommend them to a friend.”³⁹

LGBTQAI+ Individuals Served

	2019	2020	2021	2022	Maine pop.
Number of clients	66	53	115	150	68,000
Percentage of clients	1.4%	1.4%	2.5%	2.9%	5% ⁴⁰
Total Clients	4873	3925	4622	5220	-

Take aways

Queer folks are part of a population that have come to be represented in services statistics at population prevalence rates; LGBTQAI2+ individuals served by centers has grown six times since 2016. But given the high rates of sexual violence against LGBTQAI2+ individuals, they should also

³⁷ Maine Department of Health & Human Services. (2019) LGBT Student Health. Retrieved from: https://www.maine.gov/miyhs/sites/default/files/2021-01/2019MIYHSLGBTInfographic_0.pdf.

³⁸ Ibid.

³⁹ MECASA service statistics 2020 – 2022 (2023). Retrieved via EmpowerDB 1/6/23.

⁴⁰ LGBT Demographic Data Interactive. (January 2019). Los Angeles, CA: The Williams Institute, UCLA School of Law.

be receiving services at a higher rate, and we aren't seeing those numbers. At this point continuing to do outreach, building relationships with LGBTQAI2+ serving agencies, and providing support LGBTQAI2+ staff is a strong formula for supporting these survivors.

People Who are Incarcerated

Sexual violence often occurs at higher rates within corrections institutions. Survivors who are incarcerated are more likely than their peers to experience sexual violence before becoming incarcerated, and then have higher rates of victimization during detention than the population as a whole.⁴¹

As of 2018, all jails and prisons in the state received one-to-one support and/or support groups and/or had access to helpline support. We saw the number of services provided dip during 2020-2021 due to COVID-19 and its impact on staffing, health, and accessibility. However, advocates were creative, and some worked with jails to continue outreach groups via Zoom and many others continued to provide one-to-one support within the pandemic restrictions.

Services to Incarcerated Individuals								
Gender	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Maine pop.
Female	81	79	87	192	76	77	83	
Male	24	36	40	78	44	36	59	
Transgender	1	1	2	2	1	3	1	
Total Clients	107	117	130	273	122	119	143	4175⁴²

Programmatic developments over the past three years have included expanded partnerships with the Department of Corrections. We have been invited to provide technical assistance during their federal audits and hiring processes along with continuing to provide training for all new corrections officers via the Maine Criminal Justice Academy's Basic Corrections Training Program.

Take aways

Based on population percentages, over the course of a year, sexual assault support centers connect with 5% of the total number of individuals incarcerated in Maine on an average day, which is extraordinary. An established relationship with the Department of Corrections, the Maine Criminal Justice Academy, and strong advocacy by local providers have led to a reliable, specialized services for incarcerated survivors.

Limited English Proficiency (LEP)

⁴¹ U.S. Department of Justice (December 2016). "Prisoners in 2015." *Bureau of Justice Statistics*. Retrieved from: <https://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/p15.pdf>, 5.

⁴² 2019 Vera Institute – retrieved at <https://www.vera.org/downloads/pdfdownloads/state-incarceration-trends-maine.pdf>.

Over 80,000 Mainers speak a language other than English at home,⁴³ and up to 17% (235,000 Mainers) have some level of hearing loss.⁴⁴ Individuals with limited use of Standard American English face a language and cultural barrier when navigating services and systems following sexual violence. We want advocates to feel capable and confident accessing and working with interpreters, understand the cultural context someone is coming from as well as take the time to build trust.

We have begun to capture the use of interpreters and training over the past three years, but programs still have a way to go before their numbers are reflective of population and prevalence in Maine. MECASA will continue to deliver foundational language access training for member centers and learn from leaders in our field like Move to End Violence, who call for “Language Justice.”

*Language justice ... calls us to create spaces where all people are welcomed to communicate in the languages and accents that they feel most comfortable and whole, and where we support the meaningful participation of people whose identities, experiences, wisdoms, and languages stretch beyond Standard American English.*⁴⁵

Move to End Violence (2023)

	2019	2020	2021	2022	Maine pop.
Clients with Limited English	63 1.3%	29 .7%	88 1.9%	70 1.3%	5.9% ⁴⁶ 81,735
Interpreters Accessed	0	0	16	14	-
Total Clients	4873	3925	4622	5220	-

Part of MECASA’s commitment to expanding support for those with limited English includes gathering more comprehensive data. Since the 2018 services assessment we began tracking when an interpreter was used, who acted in that capacity, and what language(s) the client speaks. The data shows an increase in clients who speak Limited English, increase in number of interpreters accessed, and we’ve also included below a list of languages spoken by clients.

⁴³ U.S. Census Bureau. (2020). *Maine State Profile*. Retrieved from: <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/ME/PST045221#PST045221>

⁴⁴ Disability Rights Maine (2022). Deaf Services Programs website. Retrieved from: <https://drme.org/deaf-services>.

⁴⁵ Move to End Violence website. (2023). Retrieved at: <https://www.movetoendviolence.org/elements/language-justice>

⁴⁶ U.S. Census Bureau. (2020). *Maine State Profile*.

Languages Spoken*

	2019	2020	2021	2022
French	17	5	38	23
Somali	11	4	21	18
Portuguese	10	2	15	11
Lingala	7	2	10	5
Arabic	9	-	8	5
Kirundi	-	-	3	1
Kiswahili	2	1	2	1
Spanish	-	-	5	6
Maaymaay	-	-	1	1
Kinyarwanda	-	-	4	1
Mandarin	1	-	-	1
Kicongo				1

**These numbers are duplicated due to the number of clients who speak multiple languages.*

Between 2020-2022, four survivors who identify as “an English language learner” voluntarily submitted answers to our client services survey. Of those, 100% said staff “respected my needs, identity, and background,” and the same number said, “I would use these services again or recommend them to a friend”.⁴⁷

Take aways

We are encouraged by the increasing numbers of identified LEP individuals and with the increase in interpreters accessed. One of the goals for the next annual language access training is to incorporate elements of practice and strategies for outreach to local interpreters. Practice and prioritization with the support of relationship building are promising practices for supporting more survivors with limited English.

Native

Native Americans have been living in the land now known as Maine for thousands of years. The proportion of the state’s Indigenous population is under 1% (0.7%) with currently fewer than 10,000 enrolled members of tribal nations.⁴⁸ However, Wabanaki advocates point out that since many within their communities identify as multi-racial in the census, that the indigenous population is undercounted.

⁴⁷ MECASA service statistics 2020 – 2022 (2023). Retrieved via EmpowerDB 1/6/23.

⁴⁸ Bergeron-Smith, J., Grey, A., Dumont, R., Murray, C., Shaler, G., Wynne, C., & Snell, E. (2022). *State of Maine Victim Needs Assessment: 2022*. Catherine Cutler Institute. University of Southern Maine.

The Wabanaki Confederacy, comprising the principal nations: Abenaki, Mi'kmaq, Maliseet, Passamaquoddy, and Penobscot, is now reduced to five reservations located in the region.⁴⁹ Sexual assault and domestic violence providers in that region include OVW-funded culturally specific sexual and domestic violence services within the Wabanaki Women's Coalition, established in 2012.⁵⁰

Take aways

When we think about supporting Native survivors, we think of those from the Wabanaki Confederacy and still here in Maine, but also those who belong to tribes or Indigenous communities from their home of origin. We continue to prioritize our relationship with the Wabanaki Women's Coalition but also need to increase our familiarity with resources related to other indigenous communities and specialized healing.

Veterans & Active Military

Maine is ranked fifth in the nation for percentage of adults who have served in the military – about 10% or over 100,000 Mainers.⁵¹ The Maine National Guard typically includes just fewer than 3,000 troops and is supported by their Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) program. MECASA and member centers have been in relationship with the Air and Guard SAPR staff for well over a decade with little movement on service numbers over the years.

In a 2016 meta-analysis, data showed that 13.9% of military personnel and veterans reported military sexual assault (1.9% of men, 23.6% of women) and 31.2% reported military sexual harassment (8.9% of men, 52.5% of women).⁵² However, given the barriers to reporting, actual rates of sexual violence in the military and at military academies are still difficult to determine.

	2019	2020	2021	2022	Maine pop.
Veteran	18	14	14	23	9.3% ⁵³
Active Military	0	0	3	6	1.3% ⁵⁴

The prevalence of veterans and active military in Maine reflect some of our lowest service statistics, fewer than .5% of survivors served are veterans or active military. We can assume many very good reasons for this, including not knowing what community or military-based services and supports are available, a culture of closing ranks and sexual harassment, and personal shame.

⁴⁹ *Who we are*. Wabanaki Alliance. (n.d.). Retrieved March 18, 2022 from <https://wabanakialliance.com/who-we-are/>.

⁵⁰ Wabanaki Women's Coalition. (2023). Our History. Retrieved from: <https://www.wabanakiwomenscoalition.org/about-us/>.

⁵¹ U.S. Census Bureau. (2020). *Maine State Profile*.

⁵² Wilson, L. C. (2018). The Prevalence of Military Sexual Trauma: A Meta-Analysis. *Trauma, Violence, & Abuse*, 19(5), 584–597.

⁵³ State of Maine. (2017). *Military 101: An Introduction to the Structure and Culture of the Military*. Retrieved from: https://www.maine.gov/veterans/docs/Official_Andrew_Gibson_Presentation.pdf.

⁵⁴ U.S. Census Bureau. (2020). *Maine State Profile*.

Between 2020-2022, four survivors who identify as a “veteran” voluntarily submitted answers to our client services survey. Of those, 100% said staff “respected my needs, identity, and background,” and the same number said, “I would use these services again or recommend them to a friend”.⁵⁵

Take aways

We are hopeful as the National Guard’s sexual assault programming expands and as MECASA continues to support and advocate for programming that provides specialized services for active military and veteran survivors, more veteran survivors will connect with to the services they need, either with local sexual assault programs or specialty programs.

Rural

By most federal and statistically driven standards all of Maine is rural. But we know that by many measures (including population density, resource availability, and culture), there is a big difference from the urban centers of Maine and the geographically remote islands and far-flung pine tree-covered communities. In the most rural communities, advocates are spending **a lot** of time building trust and assessing community needs.

The MECASA Emergency Fund was originally created to support center staff working with survivors in the most rural parts of Maine. Rural advocates were consistently working with survivors who did not have the basic tools needed to access healing: transportation, childcare, cell phone, and internet access. The Emergency fund continues to be utilized by rural advocates and has been written into our most recent OVW Rural grant.

Emergency funds for mental health care for survivors is one of the most important resources I've been able to offer to clients who need financial assistance.

Rural Advocate (2021)

MECASA continues to offer Rural Advocate Peer Support calls on topics such as: Personal Privacy While Providing Advocacy in Rural Communities, Creative Partnerships to Meet Basic Needs, Outreach in Rural Communities, and Peer Support in the Recovery Community.

In late 2022, MECASA, Rape Response Services, AMHC Sexual Assault Services, and Sexual Assault Support Services of Midcoast Maine received a third (!) round of funding from the Office of Violence Against Women after successfully implementing six years of new rural programming. As of the end of 2021, 770 individuals have received specialized rural sexual assault support services, increasing the number of people served by 60% during the second three years of funding.⁵⁶

We have also seen outreach offices filled with much more consistency than prior to the OVW funding.

⁵⁵ MECASA service statistics 2020 – 2022 (2023). Retrieved via EmpowerDB 1/6/23.

⁵⁶ Data reflected here is from the MECASA statewide services EmpowerDB. Data is reflected from FFY2016, the year before services began, and FFY2022, the most recent federal fiscal year.

Take aways

The impact of staff turnover in terms of rebuilding programming and trust in rural regions is very real. We have seen agencies keep staff longer than in the past, but when vacancies happen, hiring and re-establishing services takes a lot of time and resources.

We should continue to be in conversation with rural advocates about the needs and solutions they are seeing. They are both specific to the most rural parts of Maine but can also provide insight to solutions in the rest of the state.



2023-2026 Recommendations

Based on the reflection of the 2018 assessment and this round of population-specific data and services review, we recommend the following priorities for 2023-2026.



Prioritize resources to programming that supports **multiple populations of survivors**, like foundational racial equity training, language access, and specialized support to staff who hold historically marginalized identities.



Develop **internal equity teams** at each local center with cross-program representation. This team can guide their agency through access practices like equity audits, language access statistics and practices, racial equity learning coordination, and implementing agency-wide training accessibility practices.



Develop **meaningful MOUs and/or formal relationships** between local sexual assault centers and culturally and community specific providers which include shared referral protocols, commitment to cross-training, and a regular feedback system.



Prioritize training and program development around **populations where service statistics fall short** of sexual violence prevalence numbers: older adults, individuals with disabilities, Deaf individuals, Latinx immigrants, and non-African immigrants and refugees.



Increase partnerships and training with those providing or advocating for **basic needs**: housing, transportation, medical care, mental health care, cell phones, and internet.



Continue specific outreach and programming to shelters, housing programs, basic need programs (WIC, General Assistance, food pantries, etc.) and all incarcerated settings.



Create, implement, and fund a reliable system for **receiving feedback and programmatic priorities from survivors of all identities**, whether or not they've received services from a local sexual assault support center.

Statewide Population-specific Data 2016-2022

*Note: if there is a number without a percentage sign (%) it means that the value is less than <1% and is the number of total clients served.

Age

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Maine pop.
0 - 17	17%	18%	21%	25%	28%	30%	26%	18.7%
18 - 24	14%	15%	15%	13%	10%	8%	8%	8%
25 - 64	45%	52%	54%	48%	44%	46%	46%	52.7%
65+	3%	3%	3%	2%	2%	2%	6%	20.6%
Unknown	21%	12%	8%	12%	15%	15%	14%	-
Total Clients	3576	4126	4872	4873	3925	4622	5220	1.36 mil

Gender

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Maine pop.
Female	79%	78%	80%	80%	75%	75%	74%	50.7% ⁵⁷
Male	19%	20%	18%	19%	19%	20%	19%	-
Transgender	.5%	.6%	.5%	.5%	.9%	1.6%	1.7%	1.4% ⁵⁸
Unknown	1%	1%	1%	1%	4%	3%	5%	-
Total Clients	3576	4126	4872	4873	3925	4622	5220	1.36 mil

Incarcerated

Gender	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Maine pop.
Female	81	79	87	192	76	77	83	
Male	24	36	40	78	44	36	59	
Transgender	1	1	2	2	1	3	1	
Total Clients	107	117	130	273	122	119	143	4175⁵⁹

⁵⁷ U.S. Census Bureau. (2020). *Maine State Profile*. Retrieved from: <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/ME/PST045221#PST045221>.

⁵⁸ Approx. from MTN.

⁵⁹ 2019 Vera Institute – retrieved at <https://www.vera.org/downloads/pdfdownloads/state-incarceration-trends-maine.pdf>.

Race

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Maine pop.
American Indian / Alaskan Native	2%	2%	1%	1.1% 53	.7% 28	.8% 37	1% 52	7,885 (1%)
Asian	16	1%	1%	22	13	.4% 19	.3% 16	16,798 (1%)
Black	2%	3%	4%	3% 135	2.5% 97	4% 185	3% 170	25,752 (2%)
Hispanic or Latino	1%	1%	1%	.7% 38	.8% 33	1% 59	1% 56	26,609 (2%)
Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander	6	7	6	6	3	1	1	443
White	60%	64%	59%	60% 2723	61% 2399	61% 2875	55% 2857	1,237,041 91%
Multi-racial	1%	2%	2%	1%	1.8% 72	2% 98	1.5% 77	64,710 5%
Other	1%	15	11	19	11	24	5	9,730
Unknown	35%	27%	32%	32%	32%	30%	1980	n/a
Total Clients	3576	4126	4872	4873	3925	4622	5220	1.36 mil

Other Populations

Population	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Maine pop.
Disabled	4.7% 169	4.7% 197	5% 264	4.3% 213	3.7% 145	4.7% 218	5% 275	11.6%
Deaf/Hard of Hearing	3	11	18	10	5	9	13	17% ⁶⁰
Limited English Proficiency	.6% 21	2% 81	1.7% 86	1.3% 63	.7% 29	1.9% 88	1.3% 70	6% ⁶¹
Immigrant Refugee Asylum Seeker	.8% 29	2.5% 105	2.5% 126	1.9% 94	1% 49	3% 142	2% 110	3.6% ⁶²
Homeless	2.8% 102	2.5% 107	3% 139	3% 142	3% 139	4% 118	3% 169	2.5% ⁶³
LGBTQAI2+	16	1.2% 51	1.4% 72	1.5% 75	1.5% 61	1.3% 61	3% 150	5%
Veteran	0	3	23	18	14	14	23	9.3% ⁶⁴
Active Military	0	0	0	0	0	3	6	1.3% ⁶⁵
Unanswered	80%	81%	87%	90%	91%	86%	88%	-
Total Clients	3576	4126	4872	4873	3925	4622	5220	-

⁶⁰ DRME retrieved from: <https://drme.org/deaf-services>.

⁶¹ U.S. Census Bureau. (2020). *Maine State Profile*.

⁶² Ibid.

⁶³ Bader, Emily (2022, Dec 4). How Homeless People are Counted in Maine. *Kennebec Journal*. Retrieved from: <https://www.centralmaine.com/2022/12/04/how-homeless-people-are-counted-in-maine>.

⁶⁴ Ibid.

⁶⁵ State of Maine. (2017). Military 101: An Introduction to the Structure and Culture of the Military. Retrieved from: https://www.maine.gov/veterans/docs/Official_Andrew_Gibson_Presentation.pdf.

Statewide Data via Adult Client Questionnaire Empowerment and Satisfaction Survey

Population	2019	2020	2021	2022
LGBTQAI2+	0	0	12%	7%
Trans or gender-nonconforming	0	0	2%	1%
Disabled	6%	4%	6%	7%
Deaf/Hard of Hearing	0	1	1%	0
Limited English Proficiency	2	1%	3%	20%
Native American	1	0	4%	3%
Black or African American	4%	2%	39%	64%
Multi-racial	2%	1%	1%	1%
Other race	0	0	14%	3%
College Student	2%	1%	17%	6%
Veteran	2%	2	1%	1%
Unanswered	85%	91%	25%	19%
Total Clients	461	435	169	108

Staff respected my needs, identity, and background				
	2019	2020	2021	2022
Strongly Agree	18%	22%	90%	92%
Agree	14%	16%	9%	5%
No change	59%	55%	0	1%
Disagree	4%	4%	0	0
Strongly Disagree	5%	4%	1%	2%
Unanswered			1%	1%
Total Clients	461	435	169	108

Staff helped me feel hopeful and believe that things could change for the better				
	2019	2020	2021	2022
Strongly Agree	18%	22%	75%	89%
Agree	14%	16%	19%	5%
No change	59%	55%	2%	2%
Disagree	4%	4%	1%	2%
Strongly Disagree	5%	4%	2%	1%
N/A	0	0	1%	0
Unanswered	0	0	1%	2%
Total Clients	461	435	169	108

AMHC Sexual Assault Services

Age

Age	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
0 - 17	11%	16%	22%	18%	22%	21%	22%
18 - 23	12%	12%	12%	14%	16%	12%	15%
24 - 64	70%	63%	59%	59%	55%	56%	56%
65+	5%	6%	4%	4%	4%	3%	3%
Unknown	2%	3%	4%	5%	4%	7%	5%
Total Clients	339	360	399	461	435	397	442

Gender

Gender	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Female	85%	80%	84%	84%	82%	78%	81%
Male	14%	18%	14%	15%	16%	18%	17%
Transgender	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	.9%
Unknown	-	-	-	3	1%	3%	3
Total Clients	339	360	399	461	435	397	442

Incarcerated

Gender	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Female	7	11	11	42	15	5	11
Male	5	1	6	12	11	6	11
Transgender	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Clients	12	14	17	54	26	11	22

Race

Race	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
American Indian / Alaskan Native	8%	6%	3.5%	4%	3%	4%	4%
Asian	1	0	2	2	1	0	2
Black	1%	2%	3	2%	2	1%	1.5%
Hispanic or Latino	1	0	1%	2%	1%	1%	2%
Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander	1	0	2	0	0	1	0
White	75%	72%	73%	76%	70%	61%	76%

Multi-racial	0	0	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%
Other	2	0	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
Unknown	14%	16%	18%	14%	24%	31%	13%
Total Clients	339	360	399	461	435	397	442

Other Populations

Population	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Disabled	12%	16%	10%	6%	4%	6%	4%
Deaf/Hard of Hearing	2	3	0	0	1	1	0
Limited English Proficiency	0	1	1	2	1%	1	0
Immigrant/Refugee/Asylum Seeker	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Homeless	3%	4%	5%	4%	2%	3%	10%
LGBTQAI2+	3	4%	2%	2%	1%	2%	2%
College Student	3	10	2%	2%	1%	2%	3%
Veteran	0	0	1	2%	2	2%	3
Total Clients	339	360	399	461	435	397	442

Immigrant Resource Center of Maine

Age

Age	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
0 - 17	2%	3%	1%	0	1%	1%
18 - 23	6%	6%	3%	0	3%	1%
24 - 64	87%	85%	91%	92%	91%	91%
65+	5%	5%	5%	8%	5%	6%
Total Clients	84	109	80	24	118	90

Gender

Gender	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Female	82%	83%	79%	88%	81%	88%
Male	18%	16%	21%	13%	19%	12%
Transgender	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Clients	84	109	80	24	118	90

Incarcerated

No applicable data for incarcerated services.

Race

Race	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
American Indian / Alaskan Native	0	0	0	0	0	0
Asian	10%	5%	4%	0	0	2
Black	77%	87%	89%	100%	99%	75%
Hispanic or Latino	0	0	0	0	0	0
Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0	0	0
White	13%	7%	8%	0	1%	6
Multi-racial	-	-	0	0	0	0
Unknown	-	-	0	0	0	15%
Unanswered	-	-	0	0	0	0
Total Clients	84	109	80	24	118	90

Other Populations

Population	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Disabled	6%	5%	1%	0	3%	5
Deaf/Hard of Hearing	0	0	0	0	0	0
Limited English Proficiency	73%	57%	59%	42%	51%	54%
Immigrant/Refugee/Asylum Seeker	89%	84%	88%	96%	96%	92%
Homeless	5%	0	3%	0	2%	1%
LGBTQAI2+	0	4%	1	0	2%	2
College Student	1	0	0	0	0	0
Total Clients	84	109	80	24	118	90

Rape Response Services

Age

Age	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
0 - 17	7%	25%	30%	23%	32%	32%	32%
18 - 24	17%	13%	11%	16%	9%	9%	8%
25 - 64	61%	45%	47%	49%	52%	47%	50%
65+	2%	1%	1%	2%	1%	1%	2%
Unknown	13%	15%	10%	9%	7%	11%	8%
Total Clients	247	473	508	647	668	764	736

Gender

Gender	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Female	84%	80%	84%	83%	76%	79%	78%
Male	14%	18%	15%	16%	23%	18%	19%
Transgender	3	4	2	1%	5	2%	2%
Other	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Unknown	2	3	0	4	4	1%	1.9%
Total Clients	247	473	508	647	668	764	736

Incarcerated

Gender	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Female	11	10	5	26	12	11	9
Male	0	3	2	2	4	1	1
Transgender	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Clients	11	13	7	28	16	12	10

Race

Race	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
American Indian / Alaskan Native	5%	5%	6%	5%	1%	2%	4%
Asian	2	1	4	1%	2	3	4
Black	2	2%	2%	2%	1%	1%	1%
Hispanic or Latino	2	4	3	2	1	1%	2
Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander	1	1	0	1%	2	1	4

White	55%	55%	60%	72%	78%	74%	57%
Multi-racial	2	3	1%	1%	3	1%	4
Other	0	0	0	1	2	1%	1
Unknown	36%	36%	28%	19%	17%	21%	15%
Total Clients	247	473	508	647	668	764	736

Other Populations

Population	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Disabled	13%	3%	5%	4%	3%	5%	8%
Deaf/Hard of Hearing	1	1	2	0	0	3	4
Limited English Proficiency	3	1	3	2	2	1	3
Immigrant/Refugee/Asylum Seeker	2	1	1	1	1	1	0
Homeless	14%	5%	7%	6%	5%	6%	19%
LGBTQAI2+	5	5	1%	1%	1%	2%	3%
Veteran	0	0	3	1	0	1%	4
Unanswered				92%	93%	89%	85%
Total Clients	247	473	508	647	668	764	736

Sexual Assault Crisis & Support Center

Age

Age	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
0 - 17	38%	36%	34%	31%	34%	31%	18%
18 - 23	9%	7%	8%	7%	9%	7%	7%
24 - 64	50%	53%	54%	58%	51%	58%	68%
65+	0	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	4%
Unknown	0	2%	1%	2%	4%	2%	3%
Total Clients	799	849	713	817	653	704	1022

Gender

Gender	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Female	74%	72%	77%	78%	77%	77%	77%
Male	26%	27%	22%	22%	22%	22%	20%
Transgender	1	2	2	0	4	1%	1.2%
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unknown	2	0	0	0	2	3	19
Total Clients	799	849	713	817	653	704	1022

Incarcerated

Gender	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Female	7	9	14	35	10	6	10
Male	2	13	7	21	17	3	12
Transgender	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Total Clients	9	23	23	56	27	10	22

Race

Race	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
American Indian / Alaskan Native	8	6	7	4	2	2	3
Asian	5	1	2	1	1	1	0
Black	5	5	4	1%	1%	5	7
Hispanic or Latino	1	6	2	5	0	8%	4

Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander	1	1	3	2	0	1	1
White	88%	85%	78%	81%	71%	70%	60%
Multi-racial	2%	3%	4%	2%	3%	2%	1%
Other	1	2	15%	1	1	1%	1
Unknown	8%	10%		15%	24%	24%	11%
Total Clients	799	849	713	817	653	704	1022

Other Populations

Population	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Disabled	4%	3%	11%	4%	2%	2%	3%
Deaf/Hard of Hearing	0	1	3	1	0	1	1
Limited English Proficiency	1	0	1	0	0	1%	0
Immigrant/Refugee/Asylum Seeker	2	0	0	0	0	1%	1
Homeless	2%	2%	3%	1%	2%	3%	5%
LGBTQAI2+	1	3	4	2	3	2%	2%
Veteran	0	0	4	0	2	1%	4
Unanswered	91%	85%	89%	94%	96%	93%	95%
Total Clients	799	849	713	817	653	704	1022

Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Services

Age

Age	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
0 - 17	28%	32%	40%	28%	30%	35%	32%
18 - 23	13%	12%	10%	16%	14%	8%	6%
24 - 64	30%	37%	37%	38%	36%	37%	37%
65+	15	15	1%	2%	1%	4	1%
Unknown	27%	18%	12%	15%	19%	19%	24%
Total Clients	1007	1093	1168	1009	652	858	905

Gender

Gender	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Female	78%	80%	80%	79%	80%	78%	74%
Male	19%	18%	18%	18%	16%	19%	19%
Transgender	7	1%	10	6	1	1%	1.4%
Other	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Unknown	2%	15	12	2%	3%	2%	5%
Total Clients	1007	1093	1168	1009	652	858	905

Incarcerated

Gender	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Female	9	13	20	18	1	17	21
Male	3	1	0	1	0	1	3
Transgender	0	0	0	1	0	2	0
Total Clients	11	14	20	20	1	20	24

Race

Race	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
American Indian / Alaskan Native	2	3	1	1	2	2	1
Asian	1	0	0	1	2	2	1
Black	2%	2%	3%	2%	4%	2%	3%
Hispanic or Latino	3	1	5	1%	4	1%	7

Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
White	70%	78%	77%	73%	64%	65%	74%
Multi-racial	3	2%	3%	2%	3%	4%	1.5%
Other	6	1	1	0	0	1%	0
Unknown	27%	18%	59%	22%	27%	26%	22%
Total Clients	1007	1093	1168	1009	652	858	905

Other Populations

Population	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Disabled	2%	3%	2%	2%	2%	1%	2%
Deaf/Hard of Hearing	0	0	2	2	1	1	1
Limited English Proficiency	0	1	1	0	0	0	3
Immigrant/Refugee/Asylum Seeker	2	2	3	2	2	3	2
Homeless	5	2	7	1%	4	1%	3%
LGBTQAI2+	0	5	1%	1%	1%	2%	2%
Unanswered	82%	953	93%	95%	94%	95%	93%
Total Clients	1007	1093	1168	1009	652	858	905

Sexual Assault Response Services of Southern Maine*

*CCCAC stats included

Age

Age	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
0 - 17	12%	19%	25%	27%	34%	32%	27%
18 - 23	11%	13%	14%	12%	10%	6%	5%
24 - 64	35%	47%	47%	42%	33%	36%	41%
65+	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%	2%
Unknown	41%	20%	13%	17%	21%	24%	25%
Total Clients	860	788	1113	1080	909	1172	1337

Gender

Gender	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Female	78%	79%	79%	79%	74%	71%	61%
Male	18%	21%	19%	20%	21%	20%	17%
Transgender	5	1	6	7	2%	2%	2%
Other	1	0	1	0	0	1	1
Unknown	3%	1%	1%	1%	4%	7%	11%
Total Clients	860	788	1113	1080	909	1172	1337

Incarcerated

Gender	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Female	28	22	30	39	5	10	4
Male	6	9	13	21	3	9	11
Transgender	1	0	1	1	1	1	1
Total Clients	35	31	44	41	9	20	15

Race

Race	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
American Indian / Alaskan Native	1%	1%	4	2	0	1	2
Asian	1%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	10
Black	2%	1%	1%	2%	2%	2%	1%
Hispanic or Latino	1%	2%	2%	1%	3%	2%	12
Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

White	23%	47%	56%	46%	57%	58%	33%
Multi-racial	3	2%	2%	1%	3%	2%	7
Other	6	1%	4	1%	3	3	9
Unknown	71%	44%	37%	48%	34%	36%	35%
Total Clients	860	788	1113	1080	909	1172	1337

Other Populations

Population	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Disabled	3%	3%	6%	4%	6%	5%	2.6%
Deaf/Hard of Hearing	0	1%	1%	4	1	0	3
Limited English Proficiency	4	1%	1%	1%	2%	2%	1.4%
Immigrant/Refugee/Asylum Seeker	4	4	1%	2%	2%	1%	10
Homeless	4%	6%	5%	3%	2%	2%	3%
LGBTQAI2+	4	1%	1%	2%	3%	3%	3%
Veteran	0	0	3	2	3	5	2
Unanswered	95%	93%	90%	91%	88%	90%	89%
Total Clients	860	788	1113	1080	909	1172	1337

Sexual Assault Services of Midcoast Maine

Age

Age	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
0 - 17	9%	12%	24%	20%	20%	29%	29%
18 - 23	8%	12%	9%	11%	8%	7%	7%
24 - 64	53%	62%	56%	56%	57%	53%	54%
65+	4%	4%	3%	3%	2%	3%	3%
Unknown	26%	10%	8%	11%	13%	8%	7%
Total Clients	416	347	487	508	384	519	638

Gender

Gender	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Female	80%	83%	79%	78%	73%	71%	74%
Male	19%	16%	20%	20%	17%	22%	18%
Transgender	1	1	3	2	2%	3%	3%
Other	0	0	5	0	0	0	1
Unknown	3	3	0	2%	8%	4%	5%
Total Clients	416	347	487	508	384	519	638

Incarcerated

Gender	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Female	19	14	12	32	21	28	28
Male	8	9	7	21	9	16	21
Transgender	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unknown	0	1	1	1	1	2	1
Total Clients	25	24	20	54	31	46	50

Race

Race	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
American Indian / Alaskan Native	2	1	0	1%	0	1	3
Asian	0	0	1	0	0	4	0
Black	2	5	4	3	1%	1%	3
Hispanic or Latino	3	1	1%	5	1	3	4

Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander	2	1	3	0	1	0	0
White	49%	55%	39%	45%	47%	57%	33%
Multi-racial	3	5	3	1%	3	2%	5
Other	3	1	2	1	1	0	1
Unknown	47%	41%	57%	51%	50%	38%	37%
Total Clients	416	347	487	508	384	519	638

Other Populations

Population	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Disabled	3%	3%	7%	8%	4%	11%	12%
Deaf/Hard of Hearing	0	1	3	2	1%	3	4
Limited English Proficiency	0	0	1	0	0	0	2
Immigrant/Refugee/Asylum Seeker	0	2	1	0	1	2	2
Homeless	-	3%	3%	3%	4%	3%	7%
LGBTQAI2+	4	4%	3%	4%	3%	7%	6%
Veteran	0	0	5	1	1%	6	2
Unanswered	56%	60%	86%	86%	81%	70%	79%
Total Clients	416	347	487	508	384	519	638