

Sexual Assault Study Shows Youngest are Vast Majority of Victims

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A new study on sexual assaults in Wisconsin paints a pretty bleak picture for younger people. That's because children 15 and younger made up two thirds of the victims of sexual assaults in 2009. The state says 21 percent of victims were 10 and under. A full eighty percent of victims are 21 and under. Typically the victim knows the attacker and, for the most part, the normal reported sexual assault involves, what the state calls "forcible fondling." The state study shows La Crosse county near the top 20 in sexual assault rates; 94 per 100,000. Ashland county is the highest at 167 per 100,000. Buffalo county, meanwhile, has a rate that's so insignificant the state pegs it at zero.