



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
**SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION  
AND RESPONSE OFFICE**



# **Annual Report on Sexual Harassment and Violence at the Military Service Academies, Academic Program Year 2017-2018**

# Overview



- Academy Report Key Events
- Reporting and Estimated Prevalence Data
- Survey Insights
- Top Line Results
- Summary

# Academy Report Key Events



**March 2017**  
APY15-16  
Report: Survey-measured rates of unwanted sexual contact increased at Academies in 2016

**May 2017**  
Hearing: HASC Personnel Subcommittee

**November 2017**  
Plans and draft plans received

**March - April 2018**  
Academies surveyed about behaviors that occurred since June 2017

**~January 2019**  
APY17-18  
Report: Survey-measured rates of unwanted sexual contact increased at Academies in 2018

**March 2017**  
SECDEF, JCS, and Superintendents meet

**June 2017**  
SECDEF directs Academies to develop plans to address:  

1. Promotion of responsible alcohol choices
2. Reinvigoration of sexual assault prevention
3. Enhancement of a culture of respect
4. Improvement in reporting of sexual assault and sexual harassment

**January 2018**  
APY16-17  
Report: Focus group data included during non-survey year

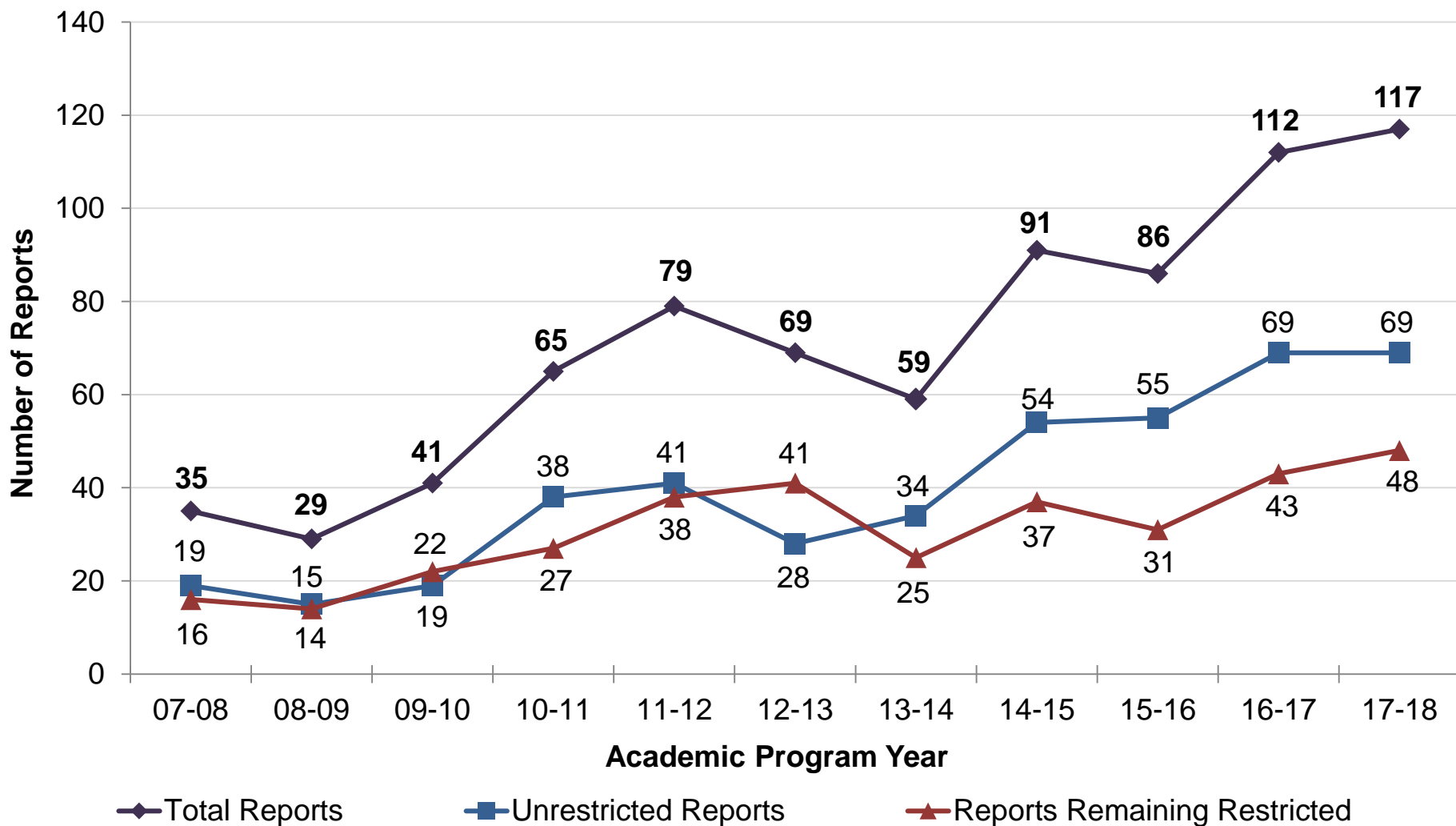
**July 2018**  
Plans in place at the start of APY18-19 classes

## Upcoming Key Events

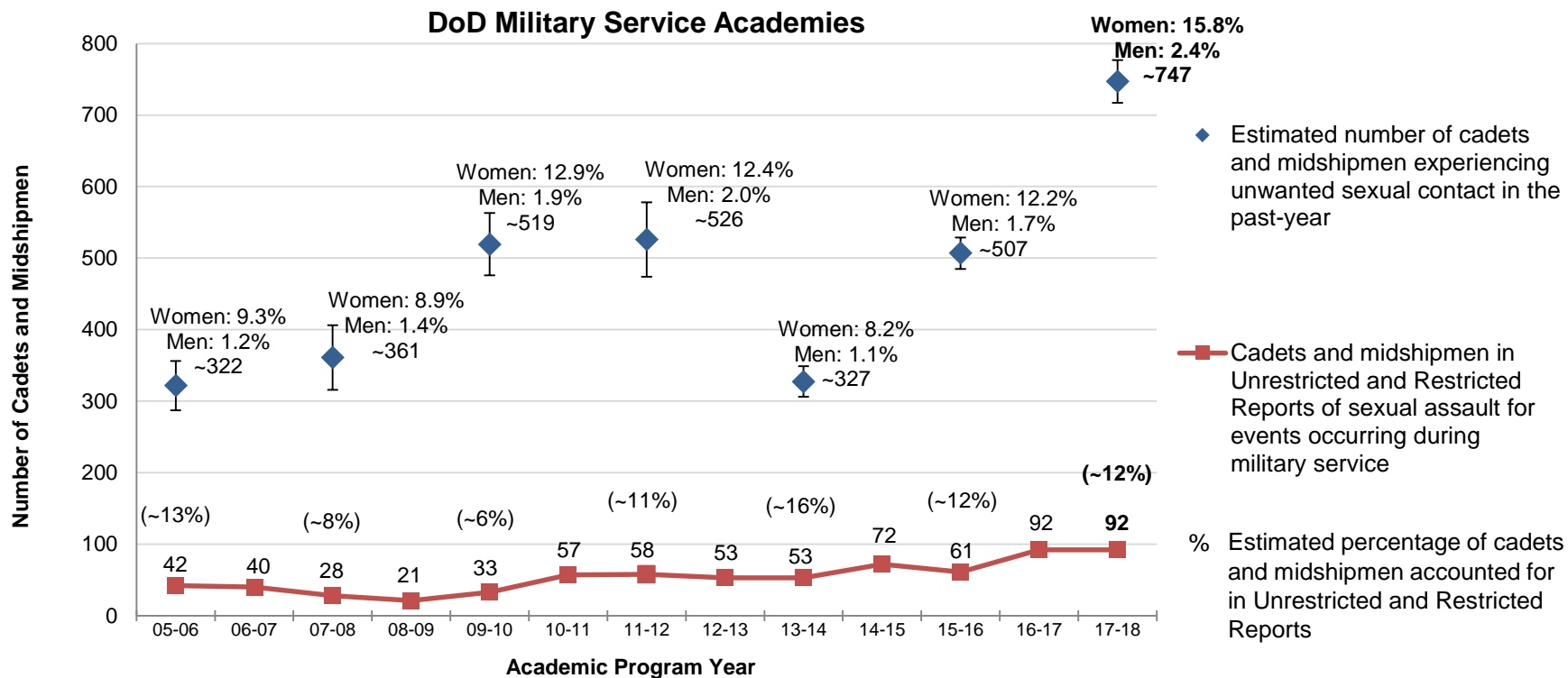
- March-April 2019: Focus groups at Academies
- May-July 2019: DoD SAPRO conduct on-site technical assistance visits
- January 2020: APY 18-19 Report to include focus group data
- March-April 2020: Academies surveyed
- ~January 2021: APY 19-20 Report to include measurement of unwanted sexual contact



# Sexual Assault Reporting Trends



# Military Service Academies: Reporting and Estimated Prevalence



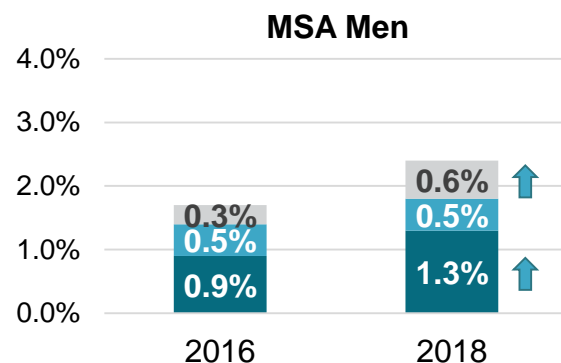
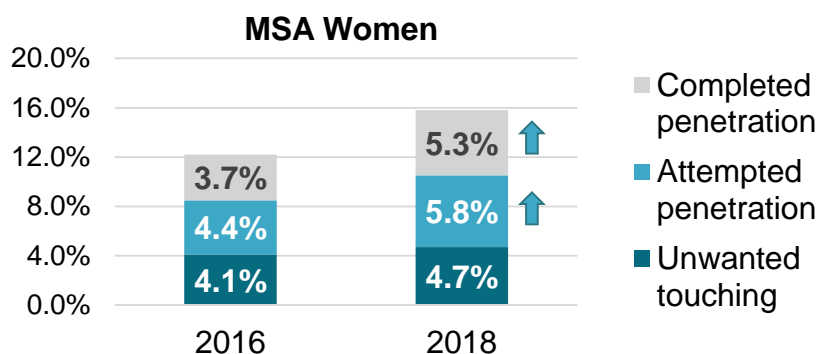
- Progress at the Military Service Academies has been sporadic.
  - Estimates of sexual assault **prevalence** rates have fluctuated, but have stayed in a fairly narrow range until this year.
  - Sexual assault **reporting rates** at the academies have not shown an increase comparable to the upturn in active duty force reporting since 2013.

Note: The intent of this graph is to compare the estimated number of cadets and midshipmen who endorsed experiencing past-year unwanted sexual contact on a scientific survey to the number of cadets and midshipmen who made a Restricted or Unrestricted Report of sexual assault within the past APY. Therefore, the graph above only includes sexual assault reports made by cadets and midshipmen for incidents that occurred during military service. "Overall reporting" totals (shown as trends on slide 4) also include reports made by non-Academy students alleging an offense against a cadet, midshipman, or prep school student, as well as cadets, midshipmen, or prep school students who filed a sexual assault report for an incident that occurred prior to military service.

# SAGR Insights: Unwanted Sexual Contact



- Increases in completed penetration and attempted penetration for women and completed penetration and unwanted touching for men drove the increases overall
- Offenders are most often fellow cadets and midshipmen, and offenses occur both on and off academy grounds, with off-grounds being more likely

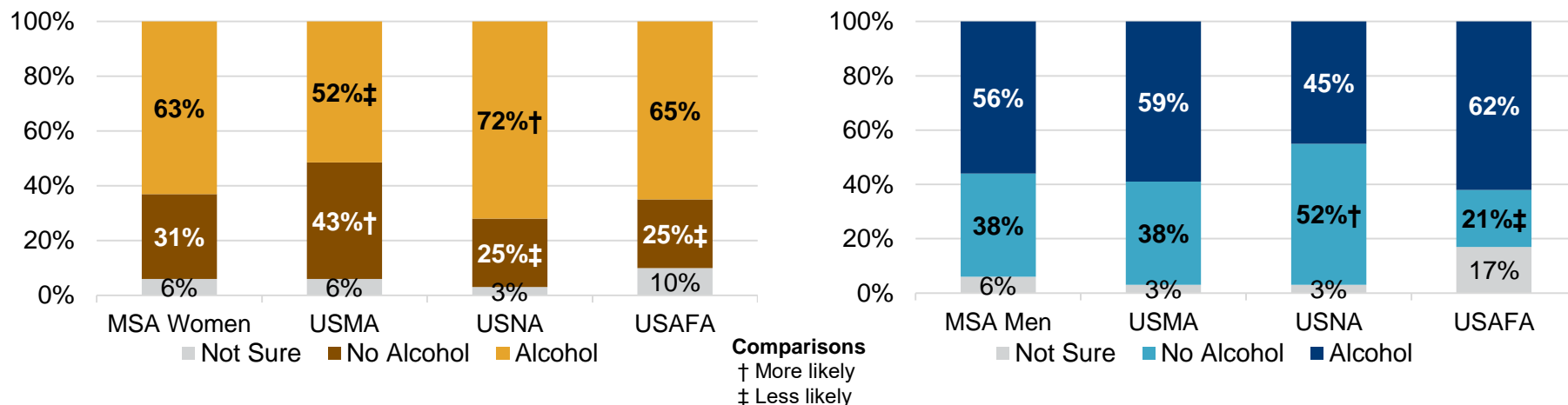


Who, When, and Where?		
	MSA Women	MSA Men
<b>Who is offending?</b>	One offender (78%) who is male (95%), typically in the same class year (60%) whom they know from class or other activities (64%)	One offender (77%) who could be either male (42%) or female (52%), typically in the same class year (61%) whom they know from class or other activities (68%)
<b>Where/When?</b>	Off campus (61%), typically at a social event (e.g., party; 34%), vs. on campus (51%), typically in a dorm or living area (44%)  Most often occurs after duty hours on a weekend or holiday (65%)	Off campus (59%), typically at a social event (e.g., party; 35%) vs. on campus (55%), typically in a dorm or living area (47%)  Most often occurs after duty hours on a weekend or holiday (58%)

# SAGR Insights: Unwanted Sexual Contact



Survey results estimate that either the victim and/or offender used alcohol during approximately half of USC events



The fact pattern for alcohol vs. non-alcohol events differs substantially

	MSA Women	MSA Men
<b>Alcohol Involved*</b>	More serious crimes committed off campus by lone male cadets, that victims thought could have been stopped by a bystander nearly half of the time.	More serious crimes committed off campus by lone female cadets or non-cadets.
<b>No Alcohol Involved*</b>	A mix of crimes committed on campus by lone male cadets, some of whom had a casual relationship prior or showed a pattern of problematic behavior toward the victim.	Less serious crimes committed on campus by one or more male cadets.

\*Note: Among the percentage who knew whether alcohol was involved.

# Military Service Academy Metrics: Top-Line Results



Plan Line of Effort	Military Service Academies	U.S. Military Academy	U.S. Naval Academy	U.S. Air Force Academy
<b>Reinvigorate Prevention</b> Metric: Unwanted Sexual Contact (USC) Rate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>USC rates increased for women and men</li> <li>Alcohol involved in about half of USC events, used by either victim and/or offender</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>USC rates increased for women and men, all class years</li> <li>Lowest alcohol involved USC events for women</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No change in USC rates overall                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>USC increased for all sophomores</li> <li>USC decreased for senior men</li> </ul> </li> <li>Highest alcohol involved USC events for women</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>USC rate increased for women                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase for junior women</li> <li>No increase for men</li> </ul> </li> <li>Alcohol involved USC events increased for junior women</li> </ul>
<b>Improve Sexual Assault Reporting</b> Metric: Reporting rate for sexual assault incidents occurring in military service	Overall Reporting Rate: 12% • Women: 16% • Men: 5%	Overall Reporting Rate: 18% • Women: 25% • Men: 7%	Overall Reporting Rate: 9% • Women: 11% • Men: 5%	Overall Reporting Rate: 10% • Women: 12% • Men: 2%
<b>Enhance a Culture of Respect</b> Metrics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sexual Harassment (SH) rate*</li> <li>Student perceptions of Academy senior leaders and peer leadership efforts to stop Sexual Assault and SH</li> </ul>	SH Rates Increased for All: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Women (50.2% ↑ from 48.2%)</li> <li>Men (15.5% ↑ from 12.0%)</li> </ul> Leaders' efforts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Women                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Senior leaders (77% ↓ to 72%)</li> <li>Peer leaders (50% ↓ to 42%)</li> </ul> </li> <li>Men                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Senior leaders (84% ↔ to 83%)</li> <li>Peer leaders (64% ↓ to 61%)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	SH Rates Increased for Men: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Women (47.6% ↔ 45.5%)</li> <li>Men (16.8% ↑ from 12.6%)</li> </ul> Leaders' efforts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Women                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Senior leaders (78% ↑ to 80%)</li> <li>Peer leaders (44% ↔ to 43%)</li> </ul> </li> <li>Men                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Senior leaders (84% ↑ to 87%)</li> <li>Peer leaders (62% ↑ to 64%)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	SH Rates Increased for All: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Women (56.4% ↑ from 51.3%)</li> <li>Men (17.0% ↑ from 12.2%)</li> </ul> Leaders' efforts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Women                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Senior leaders (74% ↓ to 68%)</li> <li>Peer leaders (54% ↓ to 45%)</li> </ul> </li> <li>Men                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Senior leaders (83% ↓ to 79%)</li> <li>Peer leaders (67% ↓ to 56%)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	SH Rates Unchanged: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Women (45.8% ↔ 46.5%)</li> <li>Men (12.5% ↔ 11.2%)</li> </ul> Leaders' efforts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Women                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Senior leaders (79% ↓ to 69%)</li> <li>Peer leaders (49% ↓ to 38%)</li> </ul> </li> <li>Men                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Senior leaders (86% ↔ to 84%)</li> <li>Peer leaders (64% ↔ to 62%)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Promote a Disciplined Force</b> Metrics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Heavy drinking (5+ when drinking)*</li> <li>Alcohol affecting memory (at least once in past year)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Heavy Drinking: Women: 15% Men: 32%</li> <li>Alcohol Affecting Memory: Women: 25% Men: 28%</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Heavy Drinking: Women: 17% Men: 35%</li> <li>Alcohol Affecting Memory: Women: 25% Men: 31%</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Heavy Drinking: Women: 18% Men: 38%</li> <li>Alcohol Affecting Memory: Women: 28% Men: 30%</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Heavy Drinking: Women: 10% Men: 22%</li> <li>Alcohol Affecting Memory: Women: 21% Men: 23%</li> </ul>
<b>Unwanted Sexual Contact Rates</b> Statistical Testing 2018 Trend Comparison ↑ Higher than 2016 ↓ Lower than 2016 ↔ No change since 2016				



# Summary



- In sum, evidence tells us that sexual assault and sexual harassment are often traumatizing events that occur between students, in settings frequently unwitnessed by military leaders. The climates at the academies have yet to inspire the moral courage required for students to reject and combat these disruptive elements.
- This a leadership issue. Leaders establish culture, enforce standards, and ensure the safety of those entrusted to their care. Academy leaders continue to receive high survey marks from students in terms of making honest and reasonable efforts to stop sexual assault and sexual harassment.
- However, student confidence in cadet and midshipmen peer leadership remains at lower rates. This is an area where we can improve. These are our future leaders; we must instill in them the responsibility to intervene and prevent this type of behavior from occurring.
- Plans are already in motion to address prevention and sexual assault reporting to promote a disciplined force. The impact of these plans was not captured in this year's survey outcomes.
- The Military Departments lead efforts to promote dignity and respect through the U.S. Armed Forces and our nation's Service Academies. Each Service Secretary is committed to identifying solutions that improve the lives of our military members, cadets, and midshipmen.
- We are not alone in this struggle; we are fighting a national trend. We have the opportunity to be leaders in this arena, using our unique data to help inform the national dialogue.



# Discussion