

Military justice

Of the more than 6,200 sexual-assault reports, made by United States service members in fiscal year 2020, only 50 — only 0.8 percent — ended in sex-offense convictions under the Uniform Code of Military Justice, roughly one-third as many convictions as in 2019.

It's unclear why sexual-assault convictions have gone down, but it's part of a much larger trend: Courts-martial dropped by 69 percent from 2007 to 2017, according to Military Times, perhaps because commanders are instead choosing administrative punishments, which are bureaucratically easier but also result in milder punishments for the perpetrators, such as deductions in rank or administrative discharges.

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