

YouGov - Rape definition

Sample Size: 2091 adults in GB
Fieldwork: 23rd - 24th February 2023

	Vote in 2019 GE			EU Ref 2016		Gender		Age				Social Grade		Country			Region in England					
	Total	Con	Lab	Lib Dem	Remain	Leave	Male	Female	18-24	25-49	50-64	65+	ABC1	C2DE	England	Wales	Scotland	North	Midlands	London	South	
Weighted Sample	2091	684	506	178	737	779	1012	1079	220	864	516	491	1192	899	1805	105	182	504	347	253	700	
Unweighted Sample	2091	718	499	167	842	810	938	1153	195	848	502	546	1254	837	1795	112	184	507	351	225	712	
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%

As far as you are concerned, can women rape men?

Yes, women can rape men	77	76	80	79	79	77	78	76	78	80	75	73	77	77	77	82	77	77	77	77	76
No, women cannot rape men	12	15	11	14	13	12	11	13	10	9	16	14	14	10	12	10	13	11	13	14	12
Don't know	7	6	7	5	6	7	5	9	4	6	7	11	6	8	7	4	8	8	6	6	7
Chose not to answer	4	3	3	2	3	3	5	3	8	5	2	3	3	5	4	3	2	4	4	3	5

You said that as far as you are concerned women cannot rape men.

Why is this?

[Asked to those who don't think women can rape men; n=228. Percentage values based on manually coded verbatim responses]

"Requires a penis"	48	48	57	64	53	50	52	44	56	56	46	38	55	34	48	40	49	50	54	44	44
"Cannot force a man to get an erection"	13	18	8	5	7	21	13	14	0	11	19	13	12	16	13	17	17	8	10	0	21
Ambiguous: 'impossible/physically impossible/respondent questioned how it was possible'	13	14	11	16	17	10	14	13	0	6	19	19	12	15	13	16	19	11	16	9	13
"Women aren't physically strong enough to overpower men"	9	11	6	13	9	11	5	12	0	11	8	10	8	10	10	11	4	7	5	19	11
Other / Answer unclear	18	12	16	3	16	11	17	18	37	21	12	17	11	29	18	16	18	21	13	24	17
Don't know	3	2	6	0	2	3	3	3	7	2	1	5	3	2	4	0	0	6	2	10	1

As far as you are concerned, can women rape other women?

Yes, women can rape other women	80	80	82	86	84	80	80	79	76	82	80	77	81	78	80	82	80	80	79	80	79
No, women cannot rape other women	7	9	7	8	8	8	7	7	6	6	8	8	8	6	7	7	8	6	8	6	7
Don't know	9	8	8	4	5	9	8	10	9	7	10	12	7	12	9	8	9	9	9	11	9
Chose not to answer	4	3	3	2	3	3	5	3	8	5	2	3	3	5	4	3	2	4	4	3	5

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	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%

You said that as far as you are concerned women cannot rape other women.

Why is this?

[Asked to those who don't think women can rape other women; n=150. Percentage values based on manually coded verbatim responses]

"Requires a penis"	68	67	82	95	72	72	72	65	45	73	80	58	79	47	70	32	69	76	69	41	76
Ambiguous: 'impossible/physically impossible/respondent questioned how it was possible'	9	14	0	0	6	14	6	11	7	3	12	13	5	15	8	28	6	2	11	6	10
Other / Answer unclear	18	13	15	0	16	9	20	16	41	19	7	20	12	29	17	22	26	19	11	43	10
Don't know	5	7	3	5	6	6	2	8	7	5	1	10	3	9	5	18	0	2	10	10	4

Under current law the following acts would not be considered rape, but would come under different categories of sex crime that have different sentencing guidelines.

For each of the following actions, do you think the law should be changed to consider this to be rape specifically (if they were committed in an unconsenting and sexual manner), or should they continue to be classed as some other form of sex crime?

A man forcibly penetrating a woman with body parts other than the penis e.g. fingers, fist

The law should be changed to consider this to be rape	78	78	82	80	81	78	71	84	70	77	82	77	79	76	77	80	82	78	75	73	79
The law should continue to class this as a different type of sex crime	14	17	11	14	14	16	19	9	12	13	13	17	15	13	14	14	13	13	14	19	12
Don't know	4	2	4	4	3	3	5	4	9	5	3	3	3	7	5	2	3	4	6	6	4
Chose not to answer	4	3	3	2	3	3	5	3	8	5	2	3	3	5	4	3	2	4	4	3	5

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	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%

A man forcibly penetrating another man with body parts other than the penis e.g. fingers, fist

The law should be changed to consider this to be rape	77	77	81	80	80	77	70	83	68	77	81	76	78	75	76	80	82	78	75	69	77
The law should continue to class this as a different type of sex crime	14	18	12	14	15	16	19	9	14	13	14	17	16	12	14	14	13	13	14	22	13
Don't know	5	3	4	4	3	3	6	4	10	6	3	4	3	7	5	2	3	5	7	6	4
Chose not to answer	4	3	3	2	3	3	5	3	8	5	2	3	3	5	4	3	2	4	4	3	5

A man forcibly penetrating a woman with an object

The law should be changed to consider this to be rape	79	80	83	79	82	79	71	86	67	78	83	81	80	77	78	83	82	80	78	71	79
The law should continue to class this as a different type of sex crime	13	16	11	13	12	15	18	8	14	12	12	14	14	12	13	10	10	11	12	21	12
Don't know	5	2	3	6	3	2	6	4	10	6	2	2	3	7	5	3	5	5	6	6	3
Chose not to answer	4	3	3	2	3	3	5	3	8	5	2	3	3	5	4	3	2	4	4	3	5

A man forcibly penetrating another man with an object

The law should be changed to consider this to be rape	78	79	83	79	82	79	70	85	65	78	82	79	79	76	77	82	82	80	77	70	78
The law should continue to class this as a different type of sex crime	13	16	11	13	12	16	18	8	14	12	13	15	14	12	13	10	11	11	14	19	13
Don't know	5	2	4	6	4	3	6	4	12	6	2	3	3	7	5	4	5	5	6	7	4
Chose not to answer	4	3	3	2	3	3	5	3	8	5	2	3	3	5	4	3	2	4	4	3	5

A man forcing another man to penetrate him with his penis

The law should be changed to consider this to be rape	73	73	75	74	74	74	68	78	70	75	74	72	74	73	73	76	78	77	71	64	74
The law should continue to class this as a different type of sex crime	14	18	15	17	16	15	16	12	13	12	16	17	16	12	15	13	14	10	16	23	14
Don't know	8	7	8	7	7	7	10	6	8	9	7	8	7	10	8	8	6	9	9	10	7
Chose not to answer	4	3	3	2	3	3	5	3	8	5	2	3	3	5	4	3	2	4	4	3	5

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	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%

A man forcing a woman to perform sex acts on him that do not involve penetration e.g. masturbating him

The law should be changed to consider this to be rape	52	49	54	46	52	51	49	55	51	57	50	46	51	54	52	57	55	56	46	52	51
The law should continue to class this as a different type of sex crime	37	44	37	43	40	39	38	35	30	31	42	45	41	30	37	33	35	31	41	39	38
Don't know	7	5	6	8	5	7	8	7	11	8	6	6	5	11	7	7	8	9	9	6	5
Chose not to answer	4	3	3	2	3	3	5	3	8	5	2	3	3	5	4	3	2	4	4	3	5

A man forcing another man to perform sex acts on him that do not involve penetration e.g. masturbating him

The law should be changed to consider this to be rape	51	48	53	47	51	50	48	54	49	56	49	45	50	53	50	54	55	55	45	50	50
The law should continue to class this as a different type of sex crime	37	45	37	43	41	40	39	36	32	31	43	46	42	31	38	38	35	31	42	41	39
Don't know	7	5	7	8	6	7	8	7	10	8	6	7	5	11	8	5	8	10	9	6	5
Chose not to answer	4	3	3	2	3	3	5	3	8	5	2	3	3	5	4	3	2	4	4	3	5

A woman forcing a man to penetrate her with his penis

The law should be changed to consider this to be rape	68	63	71	70	70	65	66	69	73	74	63	58	69	66	67	66	73	71	64	67	66
The law should continue to class this as a different type of sex crime	19	25	19	18	19	22	19	18	9	13	23	28	20	17	19	18	18	14	21	22	20
Don't know	10	9	7	10	8	10	10	10	10	8	11	11	8	12	10	13	6	11	11	8	9
Chose not to answer	4	3	3	2	3	3	5	3	8	5	2	3	3	5	4	3	2	4	4	3	5

A woman forcibly penetrating another woman with e.g. fingers, fist

The law should be changed to consider this to be rape	75	74	80	79	78	76	69	81	68	78	79	70	76	74	74	78	80	75	76	70	75
The law should continue to class this as a different type of sex crime	15	21	13	13	16	17	20	11	12	12	15	22	17	13	16	11	13	15	15	20	15
Don't know	6	3	4	5	3	4	6	5	11	6	4	4	4	8	6	8	4	6	5	7	4
Chose not to answer	4	3	3	2	3	3	5	3	8	5	2	3	3	5	4	3	2	4	4	3	5

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	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%

A woman forcibly penetrating a man with e.g. fingers, fist

The law should be changed to consider this to be rape	73	71	79	77	76	74	67	79	68	76	75	68	74	72	73	77	78	73	73	68	74
The law should continue to class this as a different type of sex crime	16	22	13	15	17	19	20	12	12	18	22	17	15	16	12	15	15	15	16	20	16
Don't know	7	4	5	6	5	4	7	6	11	6	5	6	5	9	7	8	5	8	7	9	5
Chose not to answer	4	3	3	2	3	3	5	3	8	5	2	3	3	5	4	3	2	4	4	3	5

A woman forcibly penetrating a man with an object

The law should be changed to consider this to be rape	76	75	82	77	79	76	69	82	69	77	79	74	78	73	75	79	79	77	76	69	76
The law should continue to class this as a different type of sex crime	15	20	11	15	15	17	19	10	12	12	16	18	15	14	15	12	15	13	13	19	15
Don't know	6	3	4	6	4	4	7	5	10	6	4	5	4	8	6	5	4	6	7	9	4
Chose not to answer	4	3	3	2	3	3	5	3	8	5	2	3	3	5	4	3	2	4	4	3	5

A woman forcibly penetrating another woman with an object

The law should be changed to consider this to be rape	76	76	82	78	79	77	70	82	67	77	80	76	77	75	76	79	80	77	77	69	77
The law should continue to class this as a different type of sex crime	14	19	11	14	14	16	19	10	14	12	15	17	15	13	14	13	15	13	13	20	14
Don't know	5	3	4	5	4	3	6	5	11	6	3	4	4	7	6	5	4	6	6	9	4
Chose not to answer	4	3	3	2	3	3	5	3	8	5	2	3	3	5	4	3	2	4	4	3	5

A woman forcing a man to perform sex acts on her that do not involve penetration

The law should be changed to consider this to be rape	47	43	50	42	46	47	44	50	47	53	43	40	46	48	47	48	50	52	45	42	45
The law should continue to class this as a different type of sex crime	40	48	40	46	44	42	42	38	32	33	47	47	43	35	40	37	40	34	41	45	42
Don't know	9	7	7	11	7	8	9	9	13	9	7	9	7	12	9	11	7	10	10	10	8
Chose not to answer	4	3	3	2	3	3	5	3	8	5	2	3	3	5	4	3	2	4	4	3	5

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	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%

A woman forcing a woman to perform sex acts on her that do not involve penetration

The law should be changed to consider this to be rape	48	45	50	42	48	47	45	51	49	54	44	41	47	49	47	51	53	51	46	47	45
The law should continue to class this as a different type of sex crime	39	47	40	45	43	42	41	38	31	33	46	46	43	34	39	37	37	34	40	42	42
Don't know	9	6	7	11	7	8	9	9	12	9	7	9	6	12	9	9	8	10	10	8	8
Chose not to answer	4	3	3	2	3	3	5	3	8	5	2	3	3	5	4	3	2	4	4	3	5

**Any percentages calculated on bases fewer than 100 respondents do not represent a wide enough cross-section of the target population to be considered statistically reliable. These figures should not be used.*