



AJSAC Fact Sheet

Homicide in Alaska, 1986-2015

ANCHORAGE, AK— The 16-06 issue of the *AJSAC Fact Sheet* presents data from the Alaska Department of Public Safety's annual report *Crime in Alaska* for the years 1986 through 2015 on homicides in Alaska.

- Alaska (AK) – From 1986 to 2015, there were 1,197 homicides in Alaska, averaging 40 homicides per year. Overall, the homicide rate in AK declined steadily over the 30-year period.
- Alaska – excluding the Municipality of Anchorage (AK-MOA) – From 1986 to 2015, there were 687 homicides in AK-MOA, averaging 23 homicides per year. Overall, the homicide rate in AK-MOA declined steadily over the 30-year period.
- Municipality of Anchorage (MOA) – From 1986 to 2015, there were 510 homicides in MOA. Overall, the homicide rate in MOA declined steadily over the 30-year period.
- Homicide weapons — Overall, the most commonly used weapon in homicides during the 30-year period was firearms (55.1%).
- Victim-offender relationship — On average, the majority of homicide victims (69.2%) over the 30-year period knew their killers.
- Homicide clearances — On average from 1986 to 2015, 76.3% of homicides in Alaska were cleared by arrest or exceptional means (AK-MOA=79.9%; MOA=72.3%). Overall the homicide clearance rate increased from 1986 to 2015.

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To cite this publication, use the following link:

https://www.uaa.alaska.edu/ajsac/documents/Fact_Sheets/ajsac.16-06.homicide.pdf

Parker, Khristy. (2016). *Homicide in Alaska, 1986-2015*. Anchorage, AK: Alaska Justice Statistical Analysis Center.

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