

Value of Stolen Property Reported in Alaska, 1985–2016

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This fact sheet presents data on the value of stolen property reported by Alaska law enforcement agencies, and obtained from the Alaska Department of Public Safety's annual report *Crime in Alaska* for the years 1985 through 2016. *Crime in Alaska* represents the State of Alaska's contribution to the Federal Bureau of Investigation's national Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) program. The UCR program collects data from law enforcement agencies across the United States.

Stolen property. We looked at data, including reports of stolen property and their estimated value (as reported by law enforcement) over a 31-year period, from 1985-2016. The value of stolen property, in US dollars, was adjusted for inflation to the year 2016 using the Anchorage consumer price index (CPI). The CPI data reported here was obtained from the Alaska Department of Labor and

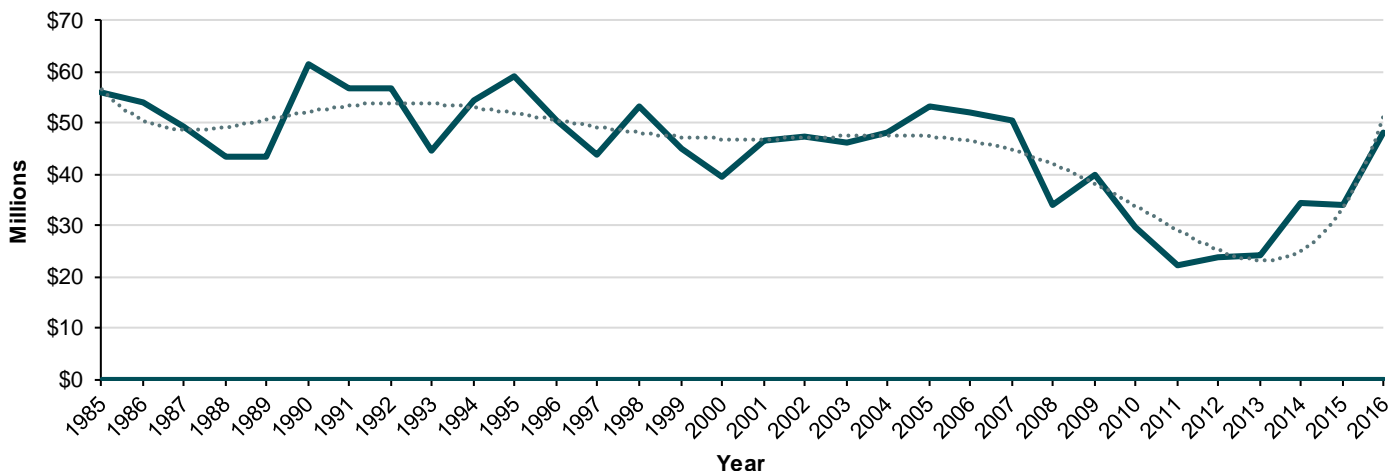
Workforce Development's Research and Analysis Division.

Total value of stolen property

Figure 1 shows the total estimated value of stolen property in Alaska from 1985 to 2016 for offenses reported to police. Overall, the 31-year trend reveals that **the total value of stolen property in Alaska was relatively static with a trough beginning in 2008 and rising in 2014.** In 1985, the total value of stolen property was \$55,819,549. It then rose to its highest value in 1990 (\$61,651,724) and afterwards decreased to its lowest value of (\$22,227,846), which was recorded in 2011. In 2016, the total value of stolen property was \$48,014,191. The average value of stolen property over the period was \$45,152,001.

Figure 1.

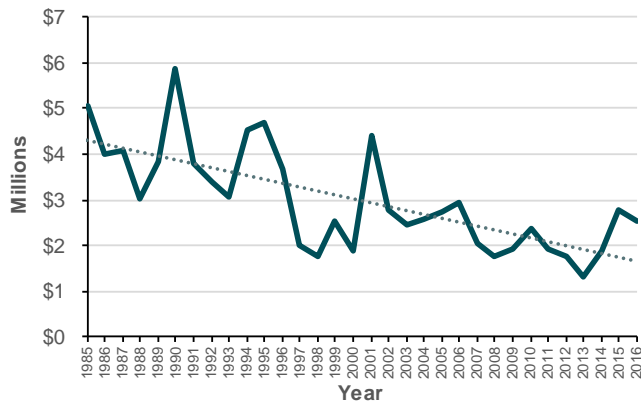
Value of stolen property in Alaska, 1985–2016: Total estimated value



Source of data: Alaska Department of Public Safety, *Crime in Alaska* (1985–2016)

Figure 2.

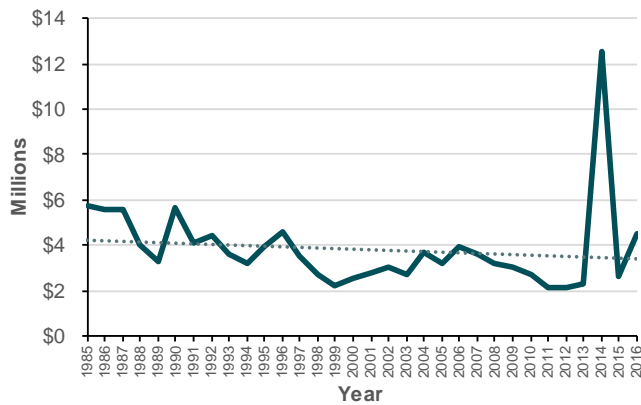
Value of stolen property in Alaska, 1985–2016:
Currency, notes, etc.



Source of data: Alaska Department of Public Safety,
Crime in Alaska (1985–2016)

Figure 3.

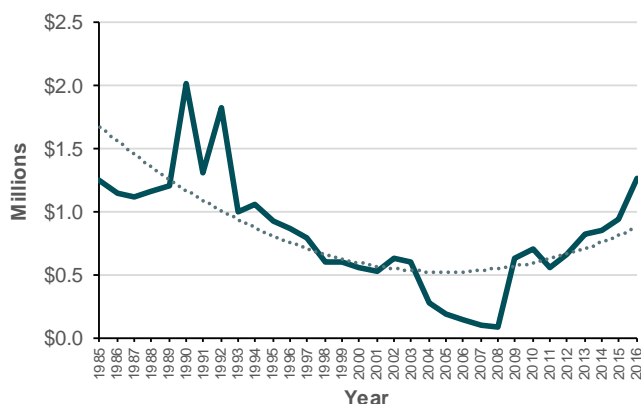
Value of stolen property in Alaska, 1985–2016:
Jewelry and precious metals



Source of data: Alaska Department of Public Safety,
Crime in Alaska (1985–2016)

Figure 4.

Value of stolen property in Alaska, 1985–2016:
Clothing and furs



Source of data: Alaska Department of Public Safety,
Crime in Alaska (1985–2016)

Currency, notes, etc.

Figure 2 shows the total value of stolen currency from 1985 to 2016. Overall, the 31-year trend shows that the total **value of stolen currency in Alaska decreased slightly** for the period. In 1985, the value of stolen currency was \$5,050,109. The highest value of stolen currency was \$5,874,764 recorded in 1990. The lowest value of stolen currency was \$1,327,116 recorded in 2013. In 2016, the value of stolen currency was \$2,524,715. The average value of stolen currency for the period was \$2,982,647. Over the period, stolen currency represented 6.6% of the total value of stolen property.

Jewelry and precious metals

Figure 3 shows the total value of stolen jewelry and precious metals from 1985 to 2016. Overall, the 31-year trend shows that the total **value of stolen jewelry and precious metals in Alaska was relatively constant** save for one spike in 2014. The spike in 2014 was from a dramatic increase reported by the Anchorage Police Department (APD). In 1985, the value of stolen jewelry and precious metals was \$5,725,122. The highest value of stolen jewelry and precious metals was recorded in 2014 (\$12,539,902). The lowest value of stolen jewelry and precious metals was recorded in 2011 (\$2,130,016). In 2016, the value of stolen jewelry and precious metals was \$4,495,470. The average value of stolen jewelry and precious metals for the period was \$3,844,428. Over the period, stolen jewelry and precious metals represented 8.5% of the total value of stolen property.

Clothing and furs

Figure 4 shows the total value of stolen clothing and furs from 1985 to 2016. The 31-year period shows a **changing trend for the value of stolen clothing and furs: a decline from 1985 to 2008 and a rise from 2009 to 2016**. In 1985, the value of stolen clothing and furs was \$1,252,319. The highest value of stolen clothing and furs was recorded in 1990 (\$2,021,143). The lowest value of stolen clothing and furs was recorded in 2008 (\$89,083). In 2016, the value of stolen clothing and furs was \$1,260,042. The average value of stolen clothing and furs for the period was \$826,337. Over the period, stolen clothing and furs represented 1.8% of the total value of stolen property.

Locally stolen motor vehicles

Figure 5 shows the total value of locally stolen motor vehicles from 1985 to 2016. Overall, the 31-year trend shows that the total **value of stolen vehicles in Alaska increased from 1985 to 1998 and began a decline in 2007**, reaching its lowest point in 2011, then increasing again in 2014. In 1985, the value of stolen vehicles was \$26,106,427. The highest value of stolen vehicles was recorded in 1998 (\$37,522,162). The lowest value of stolen vehicles was recorded in 2011 (\$9,719,982). In 2016, the value of stolen vehicles was \$24,275,930. The average value of stolen vehicles for the period was \$24,246,790. Over the period, stolen vehicles represented 53.7% of the total value of stolen property.

Office equipment

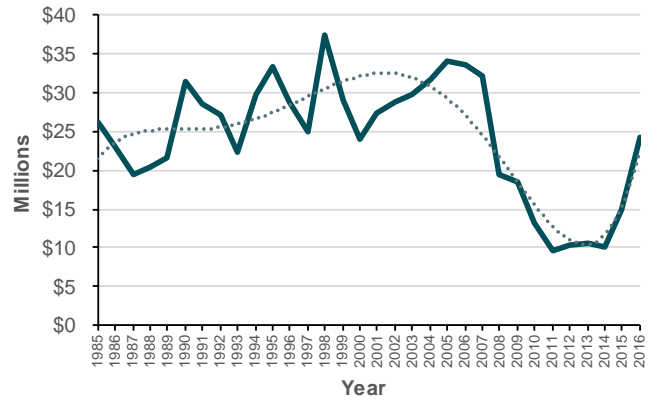
Figure 6 shows the total value of stolen office equipment from 1985 to 2016. Overall, the 31-year trend shows that the total **value of stolen office equipment in Alaska was highly variable**. In 1985, the value of stolen office equipment was \$764,620. The highest value of stolen office equipment was recorded in 2005 (\$1,690,029). The lowest value of stolen office equipment was recorded in 1989 (\$518,504). In 2016, the value of stolen office equipment was \$1,180,523. The average value of stolen office equipment for the period was \$1,055,961. Over the period, stolen office equipment represented 2.3% of the total value of stolen property.

TV, radios, cameras, etc.

Figure 7 shows the total value of stolen TV, etc. from 1985 to 2016. Overall, the 31-year trend shows that the total **value of stolen TV, etc. in Alaska decreased** with a spike in 1992. The spike in 1992 was mainly due to increases reported by the APD and the Alaska State Troopers. In 1985, the value of stolen TV, etc. was \$2,682,214. The highest value of stolen TV, etc. was recorded in 1992 (\$7,400,908). The lowest value of stolen TV, etc. was recorded in 2015 (\$971,458). In 2016, the value of stolen TV, etc. was \$1,257,211. The average value of stolen TV, etc. for the period was \$2,710,161. Over the period, stolen TV, etc. represented 6.0% of the total value of stolen property.

Figure 5.

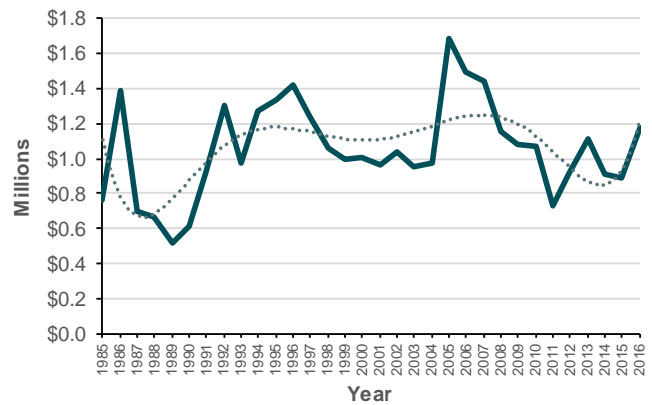
Value of stolen property in Alaska, 1985–2016:
Locally stolen motor vehicles



Source of data: Alaska Department of Public Safety,
Crime in Alaska (1985–2016)

Figure 6.

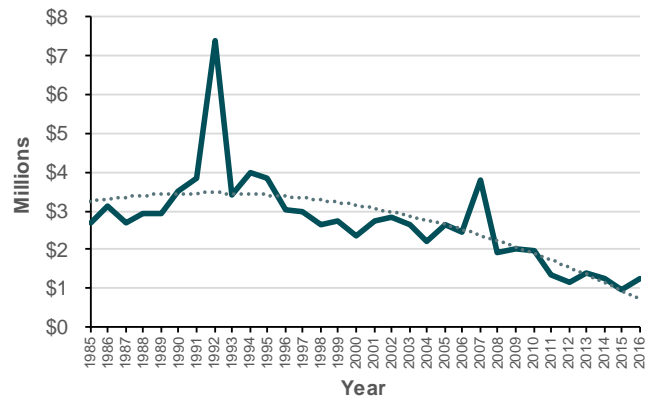
Value of stolen property in Alaska, 1985–2016:
Office equipment



Source of data: Alaska Department of Public Safety,
Crime in Alaska (1985–2016)

Figure 7.

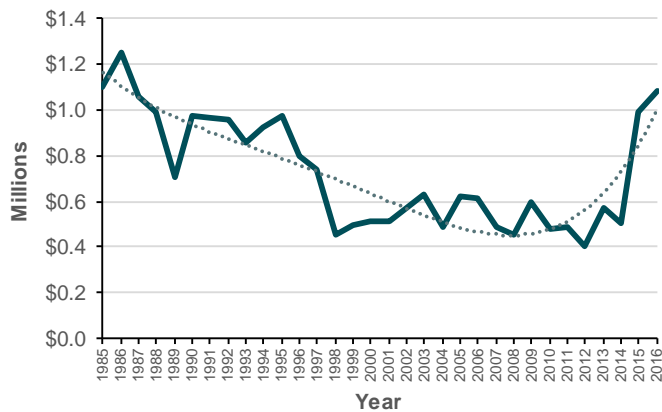
Value of stolen property in Alaska, 1985–2016:
TV, radio, cameras, etc.



Source of data: Alaska Department of Public Safety,
Crime in Alaska (1985–2016)

Figure 8.

Value of stolen property in Alaska, 1985–2016: Firearms



Source of data: Alaska Department of Public Safety, Crime in Alaska (1985–2016)

Figure 9.

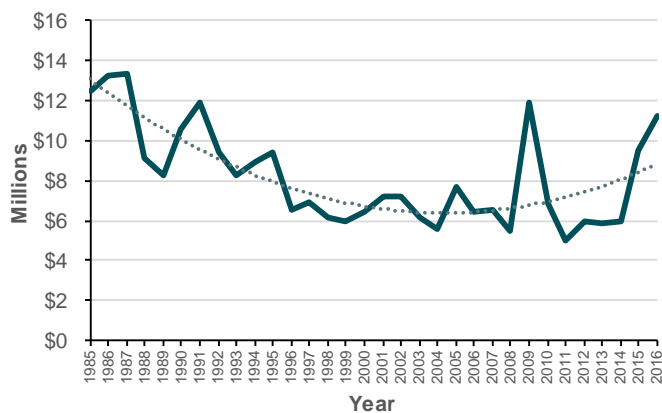
Value of stolen property in Alaska, 1985–2016: Household goods



Source of data: Alaska Department of Public Safety, Crime in Alaska (1985–2016)

Figure 10.

Value of stolen property in Alaska, 1985–2016: Miscellaneous



Source of data: Alaska Department of Public Safety, Crime in Alaska (1985–2016)

Firearms

Figure 8 shows the total value of stolen firearms from 1985 to 2016. Overall, the 31-year trend shows that the total value of stolen firearms in Alaska was decreasing from 1985 to 2012 with a sharp increase in 2015 and 2016. In 1985, the value of stolen firearms was \$1,099,492. The highest value of stolen firearms was recorded in 1986 (\$1,250,154). The lowest value of stolen firearms was recorded in 2012 (\$403,647). In 2016, the value of stolen firearms was \$1,085,462. The average value of stolen firearms for the period was \$726,620. Over the period, stolen firearms represented 1.6% of the total value of stolen property.

Household goods

Figure 9 shows the total value of stolen household goods from 1985 to 2016. Overall, the 31-year trend shows that the total value of stolen household goods in Alaska peaked in 1986 and again in 1991 then decreased for the period with a jump in 2015 and 2016. In 1985, the value of stolen household goods was \$671,419. The highest value of stolen household goods was recorded in 1986 (\$1,250,154). The lowest value of stolen household goods was recorded in 2008 (\$253,256). In 2016, the value of stolen household goods was \$695,310. The average value of stolen household goods for the period was \$592,836. Over the period, stolen household goods represented 1.3% of the total value of stolen property.

Miscellaneous

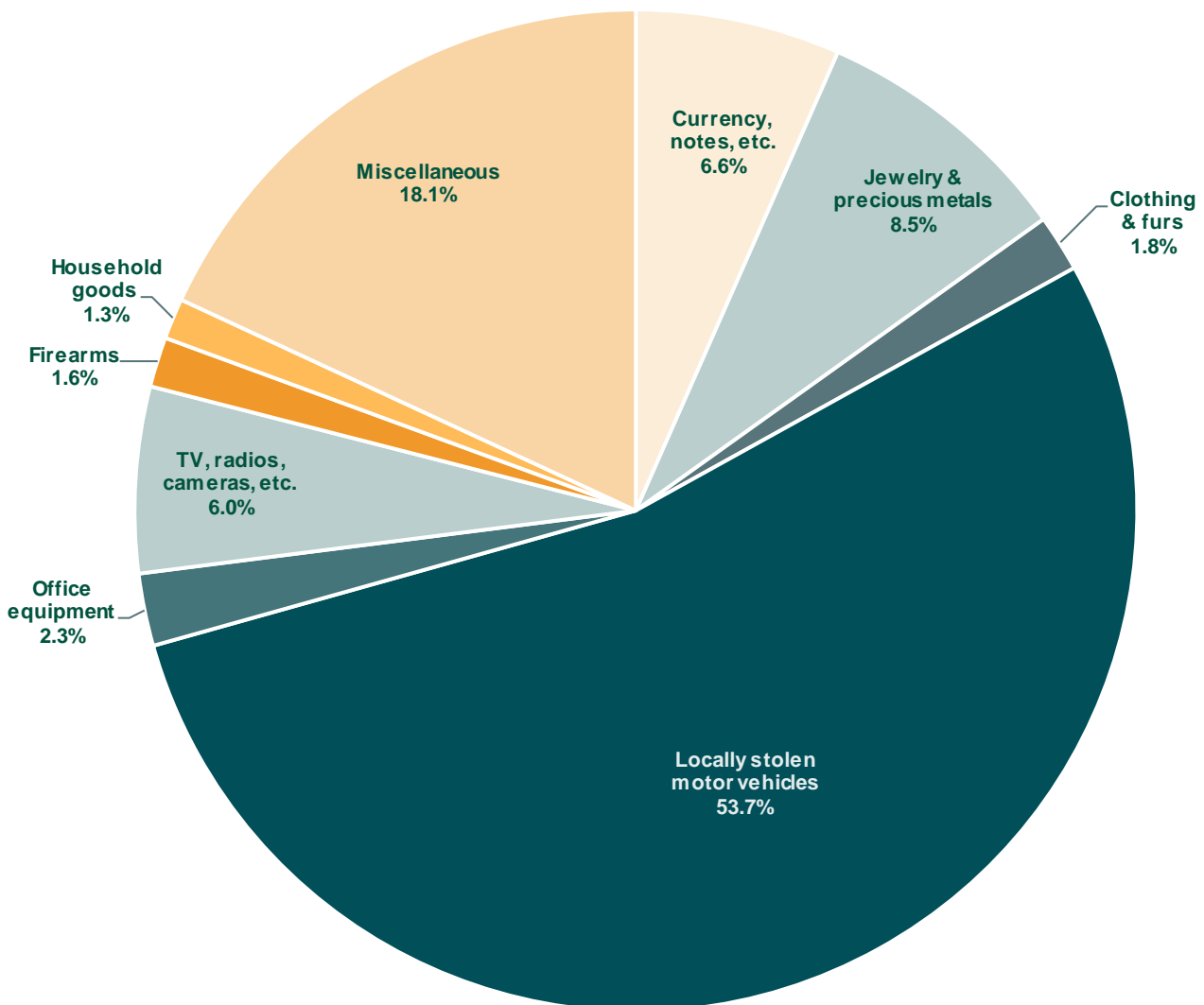
Figure 10 shows the total value of stolen miscellaneous items from 1985 to 2016. Overall, the 31-year trend shows that the total value of stolen miscellaneous items in Alaska decreased for the period with a spike in 2009 and a sharp increase in 2015 and 2016. In 1985, the value of stolen miscellaneous items was \$12,467,827. The highest value of stolen miscellaneous items was recorded in 1987 (\$13,364,549). The lowest value of stolen miscellaneous items was recorded in 2011 (\$5,035,921). In 2016, the value of stolen miscellaneous items was \$11,239,528. The average value of stolen miscellaneous items for the period was \$8,166,221. Over the period, stolen miscellaneous items represented 18.1% of the total value of stolen property.

SUMMARY

This fact sheet presents data on the value of stolen property reported in Alaska from 1985 to 2016 as reported in the Department of Public Safety publication, *Crime in Alaska*. Overall, the 31-year trend reveals that the total value of stolen property in Alaska was relatively static with a trough beginning in 2008 and rising in 2014. The increase in stolen property value from 2014 to 2016 was mainly due to increases in the aggregate values of stolen motor vehicles and miscellaneous items.

Figure 11 shows the percentage value of stolen property by category type from 1985 to 2016. The value of stolen motor vehicles was 53.7% of the total value of stolen property in Alaska. Miscellaneous items were 18.1%, jewelry and precious metals 8.5%, currency 6.6%, TV, etc. 6.0%, office equipment 2.3%, clothing and furs 1.8%, firearms 1.6%, and household goods 1.3% of the total value of stolen property.

Figure 11.
Percentage value of stolen property in Alaska, 1985–2016



Source of data: Alaska Department of Public Safety, *Crime in Alaska* (1985–2016)

Notes

ADJUSTING FOR INFLATION

To adjust a value for inflation, calculate the change between the most recent year's CPI and an earlier year's CPI by dividing the newer year's CPI by the earlier year's CPI. Multiply the unadjusted number for the earlier year by the ratio just calculated to adjust the earlier number for inflation.

For example, to adjust the value of stolen currency from 1985 (\$2,452,837) to 2016, take the 2016 CPI (217.8) and divide it by the 1985 CPI (105.8). The result is 2.06 or 206%. Multiply the 1985 value of stolen currency, \$2,452,837, by 2.06 to receive the 2016 inflation adjusted value of \$5,050,109.

Consumer price index data for all years were retrieved from the State of Alaska, Department of Labor and Workforce Development at: <http://live.laborstats.alaska.gov/cpi/index.cfm> (1960-Present)

Crime in Alaska is available online at: <http://dps.alaska.gov/Statewide/UCR.aspx> (2000–2016) and <https://www.uaa.alaska.edu/ajic/ucr.cshtml> (1976–1999).

DEFINITIONS

In the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program, property crime includes the offenses of burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson. The object of the theft-type offenses is the taking of money or property, but there is no force or threat of force against the victims. Violent crime (crimes against people) includes murder, rape, robbery, assault, and human trafficking. The value of stolen property, if any, is recorded in each offense category.

Stolen property — Buying, receiving, possessing, selling, concealing, or transporting any property with the knowledge that it has been unlawfully taken, as by burglary, embezzlement, fraud, larceny, robbery, etc. Attempts are included.

Consumer Price Index — (CPI) is a measure of the average change over time in the prices paid by urban consumers for a market basket of consumer goods and services.

Alaska Justice Information Center



ABOUT

The Alaska Justice Information Center (AJiC) was established in 2015, with a mission to compile, analyze, and report on criminal justice topics to policymakers, and practitioners in order to improve public safety, to increase criminal justice system accountability, and to reduce recidivism. In 2017, AJiC merged with the Alaska Justice Statistical Analysis Center (AJSAC), which was designated as Alaska's statistical analysis center in 1986 by Governor William Sheffield. The fact sheet series was previously published under the AJSAC masthead.

Since 1972, the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) and its predecessor agency, the National Criminal Justice Information and Statistics Service, has provided support to state and territorial governments to establish and operate Statistical Analysis Centers (SACs) to collect, analyze, and report statistics on crime and justice to federal, state, and local levels of government, and to share state-level information nationally. There are currently 53 SACs located in the United States and its Territories. The Alaska SAC is a member of the Justice Research and Statistics Association (JRSA), a national nonprofit organization comprised of SAC directors, researchers, and practitioners dedicated to policy-oriented research and analysis.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Location

The Alaska Justice Information Center (AJiC) is housed in the University of Alaska Anchorage Justice Center, which is located on the second floor of the UAA/APU Consortium Library, Suite 213.

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To learn more about AJiC research, please visit our website at <http://www.uaa.alaska.edu/ajic>.

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