## ALASKA VICTIMIZATION SURVEY: FROM RESEARCH TO POLICY AND PRACTICE

André B. Rosay (University of Alaska); Katherine TePas (Office of the Governor)
Darryl Wood (Washington State University); Marny Rivera (University of Alaska); Brad Myrstad (University of Alaska)

### Abstract
The Justice Center at the University of Alaska Anchorage partnered with the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault to conduct a statewide victimization survey. The Alaska Victimization Survey was modeled after the National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Surveillance System (NISVSS) survey, developed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in collaboration with the National Institute of Justice and the Department of Defense. The NISVSS survey is designed to "generate accurate and reliable lifetime and 12-month incidence and prevalence estimates on intimate partner violence (physical aggression, psychological aggression, and sexual violence); sexual violence (unwanted sexual situations, abusive sexual contact, and completed or attempted sex without consent); and stalking" (CDC). This poster presents key results from the Alaska Victimization Survey and identifies how survey results are being used to impact policy and practice.

### UCR Forcible Rape Statistics: 1996-2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>US</th>
<th>Alaska</th>
<th>Fairbanks</th>
<th>Anchorage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>208</td>
<td>9,400</td>
<td>2,940</td>
<td>6,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>204</td>
<td>8,850</td>
<td>2,800</td>
<td>6,150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>8,550</td>
<td>2,700</td>
<td>6,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>196</td>
<td>8,300</td>
<td>2,500</td>
<td>6,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>192</td>
<td>8,100</td>
<td>2,300</td>
<td>5,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>188</td>
<td>7,900</td>
<td>2,100</td>
<td>5,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>184</td>
<td>7,700</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>5,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>7,500</td>
<td>1,900</td>
<td>5,600</td>
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<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>176</td>
<td>7,300</td>
<td>1,800</td>
<td>5,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>172</td>
<td>7,100</td>
<td>1,700</td>
<td>5,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>168</td>
<td>6,900</td>
<td>1,600</td>
<td>5,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>164</td>
<td>6,700</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>5,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>6,500</td>
<td>1,400</td>
<td>5,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>156</td>
<td>6,300</td>
<td>1,300</td>
<td>5,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The average UCR rate of forcible rape from 2005 to 2009 was: 
- 150% higher in Alaska than in the U.S.
- 150% higher in Anchorage than in the U.S.
- 450% higher in Fairbanks than in the U.S.

### Survey Methods
Surveys were conducted by telephone, using a dual frame random digit dial procedure (includes both land lines and cell phone lines). The survey was conducted in May/June 2010 and was managed by RTI International.

The sample includes 271 adult women and provides an excellent representation of the population of adult women in Alaska. Nonetheless, all results were weighted to control for selection, non-response, and coverage.

Eligible respondents were limited to adult English-speaking women residing in a household with at least one land or cell phone line. Survey results are not generalizable to excluded groups, i.e., homeless women, men in prisons, sex offenders, and incarcerated women.

The average length of the survey was 25 minutes for land lines and 29 minutes for cell lines. Overall, we estimate that 9.3% of eligible respondents participated in the survey.

The survey used strong protocols to maximize respondent safety and confidentiality.

### Measures
**Intimate Partner Violence**
Respondents were asked how many of their romantic or sexual partners had made threats to physically harm them.
Respondents were also asked how many of their romantic or sexual partners had...

- Pushed, shoved, orципled or bit them
- Threw or smashed objects
- Hurt them by pulling their hair
- Dumped them without warning
- Beat them
- Burned them on purpose

**Sexual Violence**
Respondents were asked how many people...

- Made them perform oral sex, or
- Made them perform sex with something
- Made them perform sex with them
- Put fingers or an object in their vagina or anus, or
- Made them perform sex with a machine
- Made them perform sex with another man
- Made them receive oral sex,

### Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lifetime Estimates</th>
<th>Past Year Estimates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Estimated %</strong></td>
<td><strong>Estimated N (out of 247,238)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Intimate Partner Violence</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Threats</td>
<td>47.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Physical Violence</td>
<td>44.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sexual Violence</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Alcohol or Drug Involved Sexual Assault</td>
<td>37.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Forcible Sexual Assault</td>
<td>26.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Includes both threats of physical violence and physical violence by intimate partners.
2. Includes both alcohol or drug involved sexual assault and forcible sexual assault.

### Summary of Lifetime Estimates

- 58.6% (144,881) Intimate partner or sexual violence
- 47.6% (117,685) Intimate partner violence
- 26.8% (66,260) Alcohol or drug involved sexual assault

### Summary of Past Year Estimates

- 31.0% (76,644) Intimate partner violence
- 25.6% (63,293) Sexual assault

### Dissemination
To achieve maximum impact on policy and practice, we emphasize joint dissemination.

- The practitioner partner increases the acceptance and perceived usefulness of the content [and] the research side ensures methodological rigor and credibility (Wuestewald & Steinheider, forthcoming).

### Impact on Policy & Practice

**Chose Respect**

- Governor Sean Parnell announced a new and bold 10-year initiative to end the epidemic of sexual assault and domestic violence and make Alaska the national leader in fighting these scourges through an intensive initiative that includes:
  1. A public education campaign for men to “Choose Respect,”
  2. A public health approach that identifies and treats men’s violence.
  3. An intensive program to increase male involvement in local, state, and national presentations for researchers, practitioners, and policy-makers.

**Senates Bipartisan Working Group**

- Practitioners discuss the implications of the survey with local and national media.

**Vicimization Survey Results**

- Senate Judiciary Committee Will Review

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We sincerely thank the women who invested time and effort to participate in the 2010 Alaska Victimization Survey. They relived horrendous experiences - experiences that no one should be subjected to. We ask the rest of us to understand the extent of intimate partner and sexual violence in Alaska. Thank you!