Violence against Women in Alaska

Justice Perspective

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Forcible Rapes Reported to Police

Source: Uniform Crime Reports, 1996-2011

Graph showing the rate per 100,000 population for forcible rapes for the US, Alaska, Anchorage, and Fairbanks from 1996 to 2011.
Justice Center Research

Research on Criminal Justice Responses:
- Anchorage Police Department
- Alaska State Troopers
- Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners
- Alaska Department of Law

Population Measures:
- Alaska Victimization Surveys
- Alaska Dashboard

http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/vaw
http://dps.alaska.gov/cdvsa/
Law Enforcement Data Sources

• Anchorage Police Department
  – Sexual assaults reported from 2000 to 2005

• Alaska State Troopers
  – Sexual assaults reported in 2003 and 2004
  – Assaults involving domestic violence reported in 2004
  – Stalking reported from 1999 to 2004
Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Data

Anchorage (1996-2004); Bethel (2005-2006); Fairbanks (2005-2006); and Homer, Kodiak, Kotzebue, Nome, and Soldotna (2005)
Alaska Department of Law Data

Case is Reported to Law Enforcement

→

Case is Referred for Prosecution

→

Case is Accepted for Prosecution

→

Case Results in a Conviction
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study</th>
<th>Referred</th>
<th>Accepted</th>
<th>Convicted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>APD Study (00-03)</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SANE Study (99-05)</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AST SA Study (03-04)</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AST DV Study (04)</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AST Stalking (99-04)</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: All percentages are based on the number of reported cases. Cases are **not** equivalent across studies. Differences across studies should not be interpreted as differences in success.
Alaska Department of Law Data

Sexual Assault Case is Reported to Law Enforcement

18 to 46% are Referred

60 to 69% are Accepted

78 to 87% Result in a Conviction
Factors that Facilitate Prosecution

- Village Public Safety Officers
- Investigation Capacity
- Local Alcohol Prohibitions
- Access to SANEs
Choose Respect Initiative

- Public education and primary prevention
- Victim and survivor services
- Offender management and accountability

- Coordinate and streamline efforts among all stakeholders to more effectively combat violence against women and children
The legislature should fund a victimization survey to determine the actual rate of both reported and unreported sexual assaults in Alaska.

(Senate Judiciary Committee, 2009)
Alaska Victimization Survey

- Designed to establish baselines for estimates of intimate partner & sexual violence.
- Modeled after the National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Surveillance System (CDC/NIJ).
- Surveys were conducted by phone, using both landlines and cell phones.
- Respondents were randomly selected (only adult females were eligible to participate).
Intimate Partner Violence

• Have your romantic or sexual partners:
  • Made threats to physically harm you?
  • Slapped you or kicked you?
  • Pushed or shoved you?
  • Beaten you or hit you with something hard?
  • Hurt you by pulling your hair?
  • Slammed you against something?
  • Tried to hurt you by choking or suffocating you?
  • Burned you on purpose?
  • Used a knife or gun on you?
## % of Adult Women Experiencing IPV

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Intimate Partner Violence</th>
<th>Lifetime</th>
<th>Past Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alaska</td>
<td>47.6%</td>
<td>9.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Fairbanks</td>
<td>49.5%</td>
<td>10.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Municipality of Anchorage</td>
<td>42.2%</td>
<td>8.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City and Borough of Juneau</td>
<td>47.1%</td>
<td>12.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bristol Bay</td>
<td>44.2%</td>
<td>12.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City and Borough of Sitka</td>
<td>40.4%</td>
<td>5.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta</td>
<td>44.6%</td>
<td>13.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kodiak Island Borough</td>
<td>38.4%</td>
<td>5.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matanuska-Susitna Borough</td>
<td>45.5%</td>
<td>7.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenai Peninsula Borough</td>
<td>43.0%</td>
<td>4.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>42.5%</td>
<td>7.3%</td>
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Sexual Violence

When you were alcohol or drug intoxicated and unable to consent, has anyone:

- Had vaginal sex with you?
- Made you receive anal sex?

Has anyone used physical force or threats of physical harm to:

- Make you have vaginal sex?
- Make you receive anal sex?
- Make you perform or receive oral sex?
- Put their fingers or objects in your vagina/anus?
- Try to have vaginal, oral, or anal sex with you?
## % Experiencing Sexual Violence

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<tr>
<td>Alaska</td>
<td>37.1%</td>
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<td>2.7%</td>
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<tr>
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Broad overview of population indicators on key issues impacting DV & SA in Alaska.

The Dashboard looks at reported incidents, service utilization, protective factors, offender accountability and victimization survey results. Each of the numbers in the Dashboard represents a life affected by these crimes.
Key Issues Impacting Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault in Alaska

Includes population indicators for:

- Childhood exposure to domestic violence
- Child and youth victimization
- Reports of harm (child and youth)
- Adult and elder victimization
- Reports of harm (adult and elder)
- Reports to law enforcement
- Utilization of services
- Offender accountability
- Primary prevention and protective factors
Conclusion: Focus on Prevention

Primary prevention is simple, it means stopping violence before it ever starts.

Stopping the re-occurrence of violence through early intervention, early identification or through legal and crisis response.
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