Alaska Victimization Survey

- Designed to provide estimates of intimate partner violence and sexual violence in the Municipality of Anchorage.

- Implemented as a surveillance system, modeled after CDC’s National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (NISVS).

- Surveys were conducted by phone, using randomly selected landline and cell phone numbers.

- Maximized respondent safety and confidentiality.
Survey respondents were limited to English-speaking adult women residing in a household with at least one land or cell phone line.

1,023 respondents in Municipality of Anchorage:
- 313 from 2010 statewide survey, and
- 710 from 2011 Anchorage survey.

http://justice.ualaska.edu/avs
• Final sample in 2015 included 1,137 adult women in Municipality of Anchorage.

• Interviews conducted from May to August 2015.

• The sample provides a good representation of the population. Nonetheless, all results are weighted to control for selection, non-response, and coverage.

• Provides lifetime and past-year estimates of intimate partner violence and sexual violence.
Intimate partner violence includes two measures:

- A – Threats of physical violence.
- B – Physical violence.
- Both include intimate partners only, defined as romantic or sexual partners.
- Measures are then combined into a single ‘intimate partner violence’ composite.

Threats of physical violence by intimate partners:
- Have your romantic or sexual partners made threats to physically harm you?
Intimate Partner Violence

• Physical violence by intimate partners:
  • Have your romantic or sexual partners…
    • Slapped you?
    • Pushed or shoved you?
    • Hit you with a fist or something hard?
    • Kicked you?
    • Hurt you by pulling your hair?
    • Slammed you against something?
    • Tried to hurt you by choking or suffocating you?
    • Beaten you?
    • Burned you on purpose?
    • Used a knife or gun on you?
38.6% of adult women in the Municipality of Anchorage (or 42,129) experienced intimate partner violence in their lifetime,

- 24.2% (or 26,412) experienced threats of physical violence,
- 37.9% (or 41,365) experienced physical violence.
## Intimate Partner Violence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Past Year Estimates (2015)</th>
<th>Estimated %</th>
<th>Estimated N (out of 109,142)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Intimate Partner Violence¹</td>
<td>5.4%</td>
<td>5,894</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Threats</td>
<td>3.2%</td>
<td>3,493</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Physical Violence</td>
<td>5.3%</td>
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</tr>
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</table>

¹ – Includes both threats of physical violence and physical violence by intimate partners.

- 5.4% of adult women in the Municipality of Anchorage (or 5,894) experienced intimate partner violence in the past year,
- 3.2% (or 3,493) experienced threats of physical violence,
- 5.3% (or 5,785) experienced physical violence.
Sexual Violence Definitions

• Sexual violence includes two measures:
  • A – Alcohol- or drug-involved sexual assault.
  • B – Forcible sexual assault.
  • Measures are not limited to intimate partners.
  • Measures are then combined into a single ‘sexual violence’ composite.

• Alcohol- or drug-involved sexual assault:
  • When you were alcohol or drug intoxicated and unable to consent, has anyone…
    • Had vaginal sex with you?
    • Made you receive anal sex?
    • Made you perform oral sex?
    • Made you receive oral sex?
• Forcible sexual assault:
  • Has anyone used physical force or threats to physically harm you to…
    • Make you have vaginal sex?
    • Make you receive anal sex?
    • Make you perform oral sex?
    • Make you receive oral sex?
    • Put their fingers or an object in your vagina or anus?
    • Try to have vaginal, oral, or anal sex with you?
### Sexual Violence Estimates

<table>
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<th>Lifetime Estimates (2015)</th>
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<th>Estimated N (out of 109,142)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sexual Violence(^1)</td>
<td>31.6%</td>
<td>34,489</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Alcohol- or Drug-Involved Sexual Assault</td>
<td>20.7%</td>
<td>22,592</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Forcible Sexual Assault</td>
<td>22.5%</td>
<td>24,557</td>
</tr>
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</table>

\(^1\) – Includes both alcohol- or drug-involved sexual assault and forcible sexual assault.

- 31.6% of adult women in the Municipality of Anchorage (or 34,489) experienced sexual violence in their lifetime,
- 20.7% (or 22,592) experienced at least one alcohol- or drug-involved sexual assault,
- 22.5% (or 24,557) experienced at least one forcible sexual assault.
### Sexual Violence Estimates

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\(^1\) – Includes both alcohol- or drug-involved sexual assault and forcible sexual assault.

- 3.6% of adult women in the Municipality of Anchorage (or 3,929) experienced sexual violence in the past year,
- 2.3% (or 2,510) experienced at least one alcohol- or drug-involved sexual assault,
- 2.3% (or 2,510) experienced at least one forcible sexual assault.
Summary of Past Year Estimates

- 7.5% (8,186) Intimate partner or sexual violence
  - 5.4% (5,894) Intimate partner violence
  - 3.6% (3,929) Sexual violence
    - 3.2% (3,493) Threats of physical violence
    - 5.3% (5,785) Physical violence
    - 2.3% (2,510) Alcohol- or drug-involved sexual assault
    - 2.3% (2,510) Forcible sexual assault

Note: percentages do not sum because some respondents experienced multiple victimizations.
Summary of Lifetime Estimates

48.3% (52,716)
Intimate partner or sexual violence

38.6% (42,129)
Intimate partner violence

24.2% (26,412)
Threats of physical violence

37.9% (41,365)
Physical violence

20.7% (22,592)
Alcohol- or drug-involved sexual assault

31.6% (34,489)
Sexual violence

22.5% (24,557)
Forcible sexual assault

Note: percentages do not sum because some respondents experienced multiple victimizations.
Survey only provides estimates for entire Municipality and masks important differences (e.g., differences by age or race/ethnicity).

Survey excluded non-English speaking women, women without phone access, and women not living in a residence (e.g., shelters, homeless camps, prisons).

Estimates may be significantly higher among women excluded from the survey.
Important Limitations

- Measured *number of victims*, not *number of victimizations*. The number of victimizations is higher than the number of victims.

- Survey did not measure all forms of intimate partner violence or sexual violence. Estimates are therefore conservative.

- Estimates may also be conservative because of the continuing stigma of reporting intimate partner and sexual violence.
A Special Thank You!

We sincerely thank the women who invested time and effort to participate in the Alaska Victimization Survey.

They re-lived horrendous experiences – experiences no one should be subjected to – to help the rest of us understand the extent of intimate partner and sexual violence in the Municipality of Anchorage.

Thank you!
Past Year Estimates: 2010-11 to 2015

In 2010-11, 10 in 100 women had experienced intimate partner violence, sexual violence, or both in the past year:

By 2015, that number dropped to 8 in 100:
Past Year Estimates: 2010-11 to 2015

Percent Victimized in the Past Year

- Intimate Partner Violence:
  - 2010-11: 8.6%
  - 2015: 5.4%

- Sexual Violence:
  - 2010-11: 2.6%
  - 2015: 3.6%
Past Year Estimates: 2010-11 to 2015

Number Victimized in the Past Year

- Intimate Partner Violence:
  - 2010-11: 9,169
  - 2015: 5,894

- Sexual Violence:
  - 2010-11: 2,762
  - 2015: 3,929
8,186 adult women in the Municipality of Anchorage experienced intimate partner violence, sexual violence, or both in the past year:

- 5,894 experienced intimate partner violence.
- 3,929 experienced sexual violence.
- Some experienced both.
- Some experienced violence multiple times.
- Some experienced other forms of violence.

These numbers remain unacceptably high.
Violence Against UAA Students

- Conducted a sexual victimization survey in Spring 2016.
- Survey questions from White House Task Force to Protect Students from Sexual Assault.
- Measured experiences of sexual misconduct and sexual assault, both on and off campus.
- 4,695 UAA students were selected; 873 completed (response rate 18.6%).
- The sample provides a good representation of all UAA students.
• Unwanted, uninvited, or coerced touching of a sexual nature, or unwanted or uninvited sexual commentary:

“Since January 2015, has someone attempted or succeeded in having unwanted, uninvited, or coerced touching of a sexual nature or unwanted/uninvited sexual commentary with you under any circumstances (on or off campus), or do you suspect someone did?”
Sexual Assault

• Nonconsensual or unwanted sexual contact, even if consent was given for minor sexual contact such as kissing or touching:

  “Since January 2015, has someone attempted or succeeded in having nonconsensual or unwanted sexual contact with you under any circumstances (on or off campus), or do you suspect someone did?”

• All sexual assaults included penetration.
Prevalence of Violence (Number of Victims): January 2015 to Spring 2016

- Sexual Misconduct: 1 in 11 (9.2%)
- Sexual Assault: 1 in 30 (3.3%)
- Sexual Assault and/or Misconduct: 1 in 10 (10.0%)
Today to 2020 and beyond

For Alaska to be freed from domestic and sexual violence:

Must continue to provide safety for Alaskans victimized or impacted by domestic violence and sexual assault through a system of:

- Prevention services,
- Crisis intervention, and
- Perpetrator accountability.

We can and we must continue to improve the safety of women in the Municipality of Anchorage.