



Fact sheet

Alaskans Ending the Epidemic of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 1700 • Anchorage, Alaska 99501 • Phone: 907-269-7450 • ChooseRespect.Alaska.gov

Alaskans are changing the tide on Alaska's epidemic rates of domestic violence, sexual assault, and child sexual abuse. In more than 150 communities, we are standing together, giving Alaskans permission to speak up, and to get help. We encourage you to discuss the tough facts below with your families, friends, and neighbors. Talk about ways you can make a difference. Remember, every number represents a life affected by a crime. Together, we'll make a difference for safer homes and stronger families.

- According to the 2010 Alaska Victimization Survey (AVS) life-time estimates for Alaskan women show:
 - 58 percent have experienced intimate partner or sexual violence.
 - 47.6 percent have experienced intimate partner violence.
 - 37.1 percent have experienced sexual violence.
 - 70 percent of ALL reported sexual crimes in the United States involve children (U.S. Department of Justice).
- Victims of childhood sexual abuse are more likely to suffer from obesity, heart disease, and engage in destructive behaviors with drugs and alcohol (Adverse Childhood Experiences — ACS study).
- In FY 2013, 42 percent of the cases seen at Children's Advocacy Centers (CAC) in Alaska were ages 0–6 years, 33 percent were ages 7–12 years, and 24.5 percent were ages 13–18 years (Alaska Children's Alliance — ACA).
- In FY 2013, Alaska CAC's saw a total of 1,726 children (ACA).
- In FY 2013, 31 percent of the cases seen at Alaska CAC's were boys (ACA).
- Between calendar years 2004–2013, the Alaska State Troopers (AST) responded to and/or investigated 34,353 domestic violence offenses (DPS).
- Between calendar years 2004–2013, AST responded to 5,014 sexual abuse of a minor offenses (DPS).
- Between calendar years 2004–2013, AST responded to and/or investigated 4,124 sexual assault offenses (DPS).
- 29 percent, or 303 of the victims of sex crimes in AST reports were 13–15 years old, and 74 percent were less than 18 years old (UAA, Justice Center and AST 2003/2004 study).
- The most common age combination in sex crimes cases: victims were 0–12 years old, suspects were 31 or older (UAA, Justice Center and AST 2003–2004 study).
- The most common relationship between victims and a suspect in sex crime cases is friend or acquaintance (UAA, Justice Center).
- A child was present in 43 percent of assaults involving domestic violence reported to AST (2004). In addition, 26.4 percent of eyewitnesses were under the age of 18 (no difference between being present and being an eyewitness). (UAA, Justice Center).
- More than 90 percent of abusers are people children know, love, and trust (Darkness to Light).
- There are 39 million survivors of child sexual abuse in America (Darkness to Light)
- There are currently 795 sex offenders (registerable and non-registerable) in the custody of Department of Corrections (DOC), and there are an additional 703 who are on supervised probation (DOC).
- During calendar year 2013, 19 percent of submissions given to the State crime lab were related to sex crimes (DPS).
- In 2013, average rate of reported rape was:
 - 3.6 times higher in Alaska than nationally.
 - 3.9 times higher in Anchorage than nationally.
 - 2.9 times higher in Fairbanks than nationally (FBI Uniform Crime Reporting Statistics).





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- 3.5 percent of Alaskan women who delivered a live born infant in 2011 reported physical abuse* by their husband or partner during the 12 months prior to pregnancy, and 2.7 percent of mothers of newborns reported physical abuse* by their husband or partner during pregnancy.

*Includes being pushed, hit, slapped, kicked, choked, or being physically hurt in any other way (Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System 2011).

- In the 2013 Youth Risk Behavior Survey of Alaska high school students:
 - 9.1 percent of those who dated or went out with someone reported that they had been physically hurt on purpose by someone they were dating or going out with one or more times during the past 12 months.
 - 9.3 percent reported that they had been physically forced to have sexual intercourse when they did not want it. (HSS).
- From FY 2009 to FY 2014 there has been a 19 percent growth in shelter nights, with 98,260 shelter nights provided to victims of abuse (Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault — CDVSA Annual Report).
- On September 17, 2013, all but one of the identified domestic violence programs in Alaska participated in the 2011 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The figures below represent information from 18 participating programs regarding services provided during the 24-hour survey period. The results of the survey include the following:
 - 618 victims served in one day
 - 336 domestic violence victims found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.
 - 282 adults and children received non-residential assistance and services, including individual counseling, legal advocacy, and children's support groups.
 - 97 hotline calls answered (Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault — ANDVSA).
- In FY 2013 the ANDVSA Pro Bono Program provided legal representation for 110 domestic violence clients with a total of 4,777 attorney hours. And in FY 2013, 4,107 clients received legal representation by volunteer attorneys for a total of 4,737 attorney hours.
- Among persons ages 16–19 years, persons with disabilities had an average annual unadjusted rate of violent victimization of 123 per 1,000. In 2011, that rate was at least three times greater than the rate for persons without disabilities (37 per 1,000). (2009–2011 Bureau of Justice Statistics Special Report, Crime Against Persons with Disabilities).
- The rate of violence for males with disabilities was 42 per 1,000 in 2011, compared to 22 per 1,000 for males without disabilities. For females with disabilities, the rate of violence was 53 per 1,000 in 2011, compared to 17 per 1,000 for females without disabilities. (2009–2011 Bureau of Justice Statistics Special Report, Crime Against Persons with Disabilities).
- In the 2013 Alaska Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System Survey (BRFSS), 18.7% of adult responders witnessed domestic violence prior to age 18.
- 55% of children who witnessed domestic violence were also victims of physical abuse, 30.2% were victims of sexual abuse, 69.1% were victims of Verbal/Emotional Abuse, 25% had a household member in prison at some point. (BRFSS).

