

For Immediate Release

2019 Felony Level Sex Offense Report Now Published to DPS Website

November 30, 2020 (Anchorage, AK) – The <u>2019 Felony Level Sex Offense (FLSO)</u> report is now published on the Department of Public Safety Website. The FLSO report contains data from state and local agencies and is required reporting in addition to the Uniform Crime Reporting. The document is a major resource for measuring the trend and distribution of felony level sex crimes in Alaska. This is the fifth year that findings from this database have been published. Caution should be exercised in comparing data between Felony Level Sex Offense statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting, and the Alaska Victimization Survey; they are separate data collection efforts with different methodologies in aggregating incidents, offenses, and victims.

Reports of felony level sex offense incidents decreased 10.7% in 2019 compared to 2018, and the number of reported victims decreased 11.1%. Nearly 52% of all reported victims were juveniles. In the reported relationships between the victims and suspects, with victims under the age of 11, less than 2% of the reported relationship involved a stranger. 17% of victims aged 18 and over reported the suspect was a stranger.

"The report shows us that the vast majority of felony level sexual assaults occurring in Alaska are domestic violence incidents," said Commissioner Amanda Price, Department of Public Safety. "Behind the grim statistics are real victims and survivors trying to overcome their traumatic ordeal to find safety and security in their home and community. Investigating crimes and arresting offenders, while important, is a reactive action and will not solely put a stop to the abuse. The DPS, through its Counsel on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, is dedicated to a proactive effort of providing prevention and public education services while lifting up these individuals to help them gain access to much needed resources in hopes of breaking the devastating cycle of abuse."

The <u>Intimate Partner Violence-Interactive Data Dashboard</u> (IPV-IDD), an interactive tool providing easier access to data related to intimate partner and domestic violence, can be found on the <u>Counsel on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault's</u> (CDVSA) website. Also on the website are resources for victims and survivors and information regarding many preventative and public education programs. Though encouraged to do so, victims and survivors do not have to make a report of an incident to law enforcement to access services.

- For immediate response call 911
- Alaska 2-1-1 -- assistance, referrals, resources
- Alaska's CARELINE -- 877-266-4357
- National Domestic Violence Hotline 800-799-7233 *** 800-787-3224 TTY
- National Sexual Assault Hotline -- 800-656-HOPE (4673)
- To report Child Abuse call -- 1-800-478-4444 or online at ReportChildAbuse@alaska.gov
- For a listing of all <u>local</u> victim services 24/7 hotlines, go to: <u>https://dps.alaska.gov/CDVSA/Services/VictimServices</u>

The 2019 Felony Level Sex Offense report was authored by DPS's <u>Division of Statewide Services</u>. The Division of Statewide Services provides technical and specialized services to the other divisions of the Department of Public Safety, local State and Federal Law enforcement, and the public at large. Past Crime in Alaska Reports and Felony Level Sex Offenses reports can be found online <u>here</u>.

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