



Felony Level Sex Offenses

2020

Crime in Alaska Supplemental Report

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Table of Contents

Program Overview	3
2020 Statewide Summary	4
Northern Alaska	5
Western Alaska	6
Southcentral Alaska	7
Southeast Alaska	8
Anchorage Alaska.....	9
Specialized State Agencies	10
Rate of Incidents	11
Reported Victim Demographics	12
Reported Suspect Demographics	13
Population Comparison	14
Reported Victim Suspect Racial Comparison.....	15
Victims 0-10 Years Old	16
Victims 11-17 Years Old	17
Victims 18+ Years Old	18
Reported Supplemental Data.....	19
Reported Statutory Offenses.....	20
Prostitution & Sex Trafficking.....	20
Child Pornography.....	20
Sexual Assault.....	20
Sexual Abuse of a Minor.....	20
References & Further Reading.....	21

2020 FELONY LEVEL SEX OFFENSES

Program Overview

The Department of Public Safety (DPS) is tasked with collecting information on felony level sex offenses reported to state and local law enforcement agencies, as defined by Alaska Statute (AS) 12.63.100, and as required by AS 12.62.130. This is a required reporting program for state and local law enforcement agencies and is in addition to the requirements for Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR).

The Felony Sex Offense (FSO) database is a repository maintained by DPS for state and local law enforcement agencies to record reports of felony level sex offenses within their jurisdiction based on State of Alaska statutes. Data elements collected include victim and suspect demographics, victim/suspect relationships, offense location, weapon type used, and the associated statute violation.

Caution should be exercised in comparing data between Felony 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.

The [Uniform Crime Reporting \(UCR\) Program](#) is a nationwide cooperative effort by federal, state, city, county and tribal law enforcement agencies to report data on crimes reported in their jurisdiction. The national program is managed and maintained by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). Since June of 1982, the DPS has administered the UCR Program for the State of Alaska. The current UCR program data collection methodology is focused on the number of times a person is victimized, while the FSO program focus is to collect information about an incident. For example, a person sexually assaulted multiple times by a single offender would likely result in multiple rape offenses reported to the UCR program, but the same situation would be reported in the FSO database as one incident with a single victim and multiple statute violations reported. Additionally, the FSO database can capture data elements for each reported sex offense not currently captured through the UCR program such as victim and suspect demographic information, victim and suspect relationship information, weapon type,

and location of the assault. Noting this difference in data collection methodology, the most recent UCR figures reported in the [2020 Crime in Alaska Publication](#) show a 3.1% percent increase in rape offenses reported to law enforcement from 2019 to 2020.

In 2009, the Alaska Senate Judiciary Committee tasked the legislature to fund a victimization survey to determine the rate of both reported and unreported sexual assaults in Alaska. [The Alaska Victimization Survey](#) (AVS) is conducted by the University of Alaska Anchorage Justice Center, with oversight by the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (CDVSA), a council within DPS. The survey is modeled after the national survey conducted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The AVS is comprised of a telephone survey of adult women aged 18 and over; the UCR program and the FSO database collect all offense and incident information reported to law enforcement. Noting this difference in data collection methodology, the most recent AVS results from 2020 show an increase in intimate partner and sexual violence since 2015.

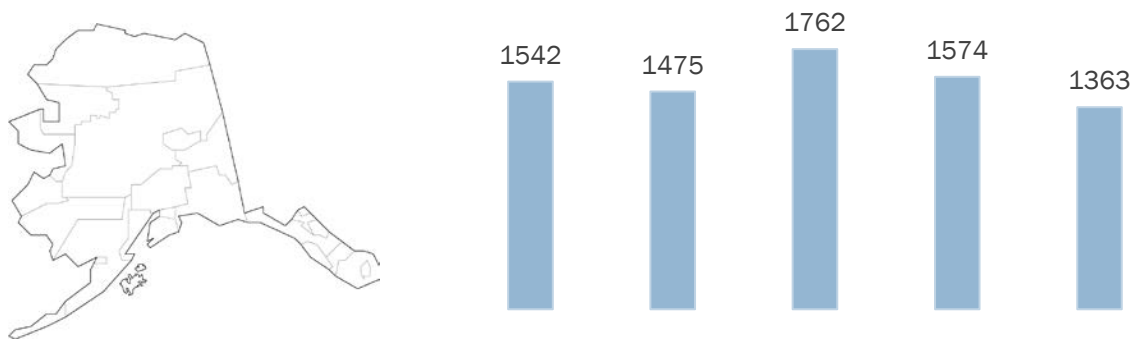
It is important to note the incidents reported to the FSO program through 2020 were documented at the initial reporting stage of the investigation by law enforcement. Agencies were instructed to report information when a felony level sex offense became known to law enforcement. The FSO database was not originally intended to track the life cycle of an incident, but to provide insight into the volume and type of sex offenses being reported to law enforcement.

Additionally, some data elements of a reportable incident are optional; not all incidents include location, weapon, relationship, or victim/suspect demographics. A single incident may also involve multiple victims or offenders, as well as multiple statute violations.

This is the sixth year that findings from this database have been published.

FELONY SEX OFFENSE FINDINGS

2020 Statewide Summary



Statewide	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total Incidents	1542	1475	1762	1574	1363
Victims Reported ¹	1181	1498	1850	1645	1309
Suspects Reported ¹	1007	1455	1789	1641	1359

2020 Quick Facts

> Reports of felony level sex offense incidents decreased 13.4% in 2020 compared to 2019, and the number of reported victims decreased 20.4%.

> The region of Western Alaska reported the highest rate of felony level sex offense incidents statewide, while Northern Alaska reported the lowest rate.

> Nearly 56% of all reported victims were juveniles.

> Victims under the age of 11 most often reported being assaulted by someone who was outside family but otherwise known.

> Alaska Native females were reported to have the highest victimization rate of any gender or racial group, comprising 53.7% of reported victims.

> The median age of female victims was 17, while the most common age was 15.

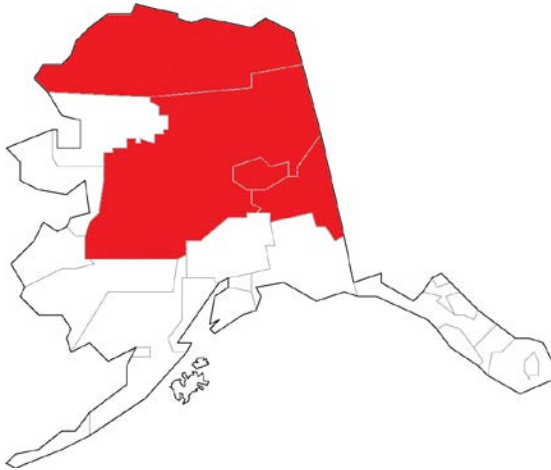
> The median age of male victims was 15, while the most common age was 16.

> In the reported relationships between the victims and suspects, 11.6% identified the suspect as a stranger. With victims under 11 years old, 2% of the relationships involved a stranger, whereas 20% of victims aged 18 and over reported the suspect was a stranger.

¹ Not all reported incidents included victim demographics. Some incidents involve multiple victims and/or multiple suspects.

2020 FELONY SEX OFFENSES BY GEOGRAPHIC AREA

Northern Alaska



12

Most Common Victim Age

30

Most Common Suspect Age

Population (123,365) Includes:

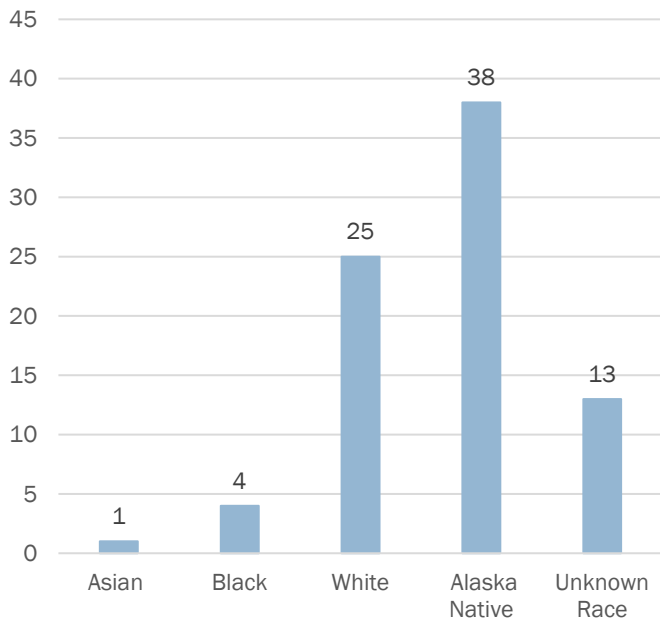
- Denali Borough
- Fairbanks North Star Borough
- North Slope Borough
- Southeast Fairbanks Census Area
- Yukon-Koyukuk Census Area

Reporting Agencies

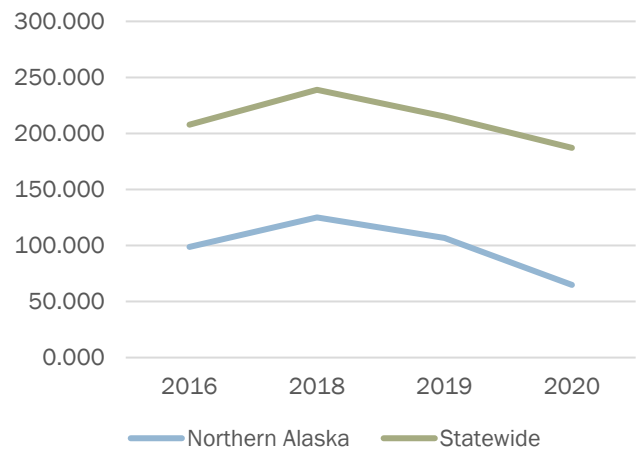
- Alaska State Troopers D Detachment (servicing Utqiagvik, Cantwell, Delta Junction, Fairbanks, Galena, Healy, Nenana, Northway, Tok)
- Fairbanks Airport Police Department
- Fairbanks Police Department
- North Pole Police Department
- North Slope Borough Police Department
- University of Alaska Fairbanks Police Department

Rate Per 100,000 Population of Felony Level Sex Offenses:

Northern Alaska: Race of Victim

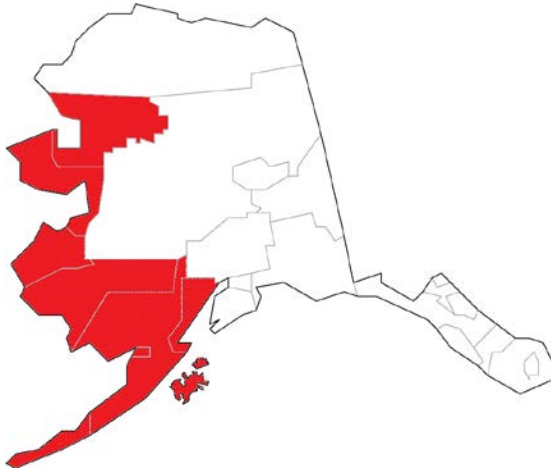


Northern Region



2020 FELONY SEX OFFENSES BY GEOGRAPHIC AREA

Western Alaska



16

Most Common Victim Age

19

Most Common Suspect Age

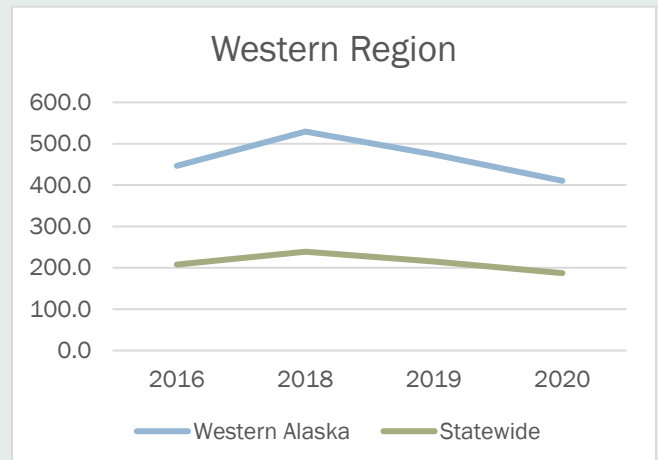
Population (73,850) Includes:

- Aleutians East Borough
- Aleutians West Census Area
- Bethel Census Area
- Bristol Bay Borough
- Dillingham Census Area
- Kodiak Island Borough
- Kusilvak Census Area
- Lake and Peninsula Borough
- Nome Census Area
- Northwest Arctic Borough

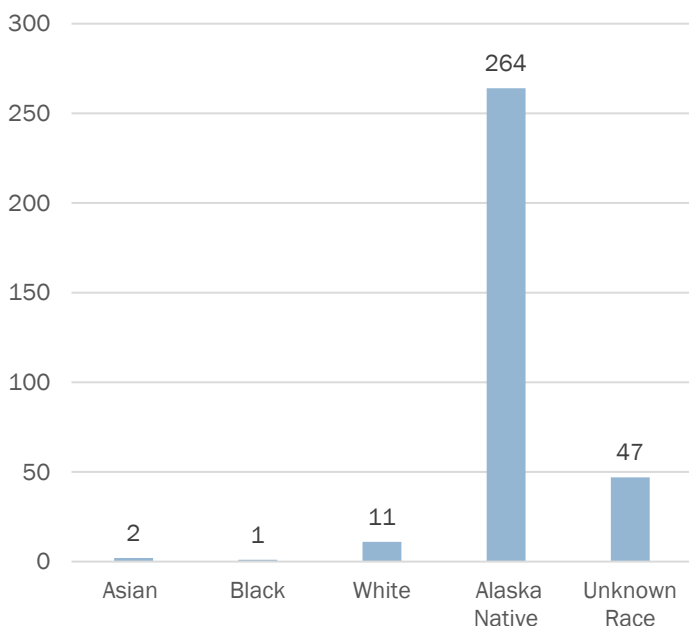
Reporting Agencies:

- Alaska State Troopers C Detachment (servicing Aniak, Bethel, Dillingham, Emmonak, Iliamna, King Salmon, Kodiak, Kotzebue, McGrath, Nome, St. Mary's, Selawik, Unalakleet)
- Bethel Police Department
- Bristol Bay Borough Police Department
- Dillingham Police Department
- Kodiak Police Department
- Kotzebue Police Department
- Nome Police Department
- Unalaska Police Department

Rates Per 100,000 Population of Felony Level Sex Offenses:

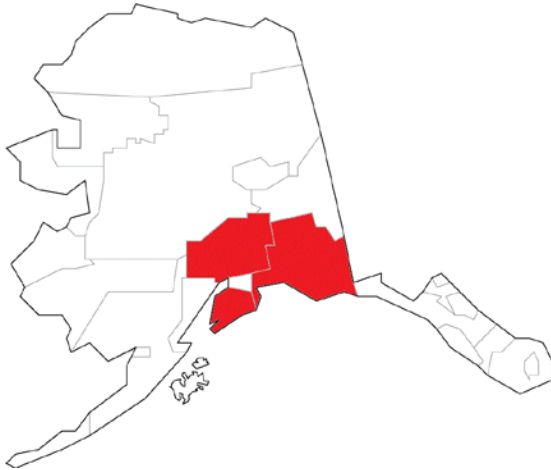


Western Alaska: Race of Victim



2020 FELONY SEX OFFENSES BY GEOGRAPHIC AREA

Southcentral Alaska²



14

Most Common Victim Age

17

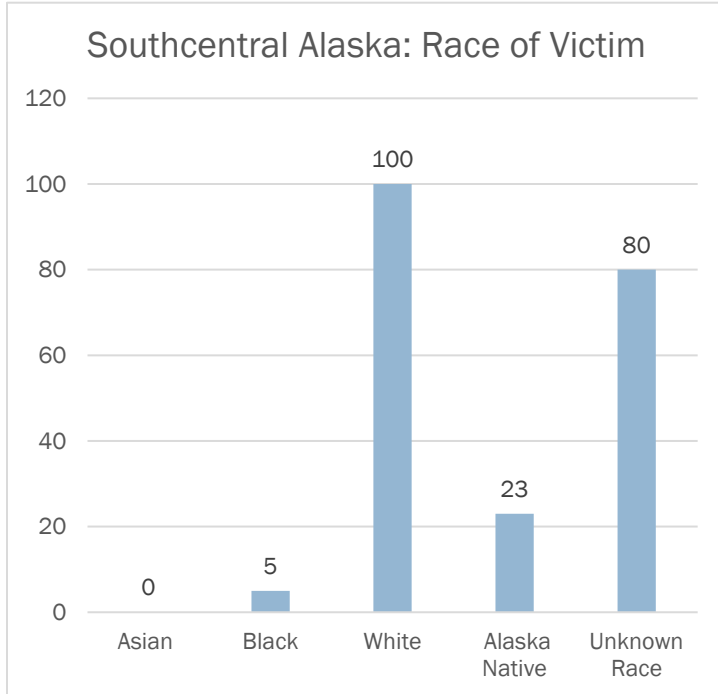
Most Common Suspect Age

Population (173,076) Includes:

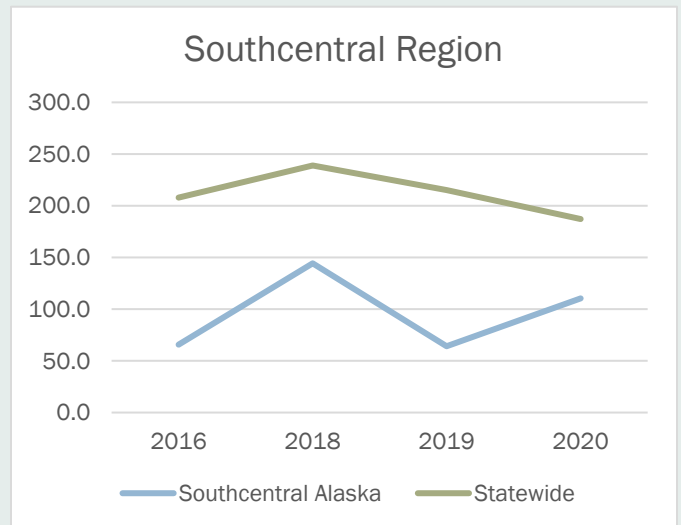
- Kenai Peninsula Borough
- Matanuska-Susitna Borough
- Valdez-Cordova Census Area

Reporting Agencies:

- Alaska State Troopers E Detachment (servicing Anchor Point, Cooper Landing, Ninilchik, Seward, Soldotna)
- Alaska State Troopers B Detachment (servicing Glennallen, Palmer, Mat-Su West)
- Cordova Police Department
- Homer Police Department
- Kenai Police Department
- Palmer Police Department
- Seward Police Department
- Soldotna Police Department
- Valdez Police Department
- Wasilla Police Department



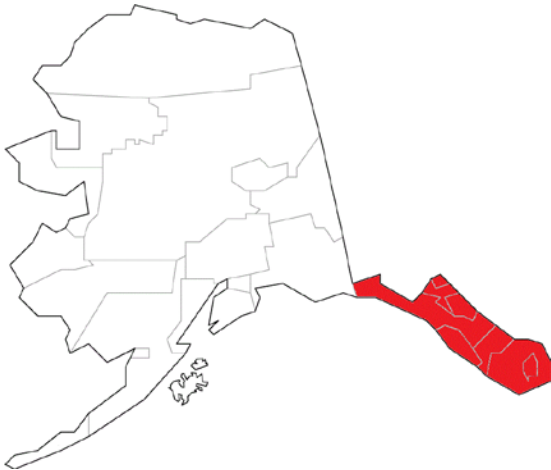
Rates Per 100,000 Population of Felony Level Sex Offenses:



² Detachment 'E' has been consolidated for management purposes under Detachment A as Detachment A-South, but all incidents occurring in this geographic area are still reported under Southcentral Alaska.

2020 FELONY SEX OFFENSES BY GEOGRAPHIC AREA

Southeast Alaska



18

Most Common Victim Age

18

Most Common Suspect Age

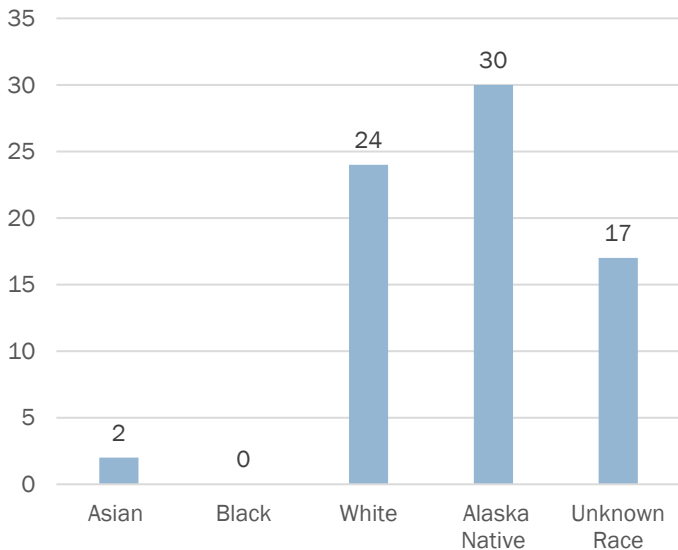
Population (73,246) Includes:

- Haines Borough
- Hoonah-Angoon Census Area
- Juneau City and Borough
- Ketchikan Gateway Borough
- Petersburg Borough
- Prince of Wales-Hyder Census Area
- Sitka City and Borough
- Skagway Municipality
- Wrangell City and Borough
- Yakutat City and Borough

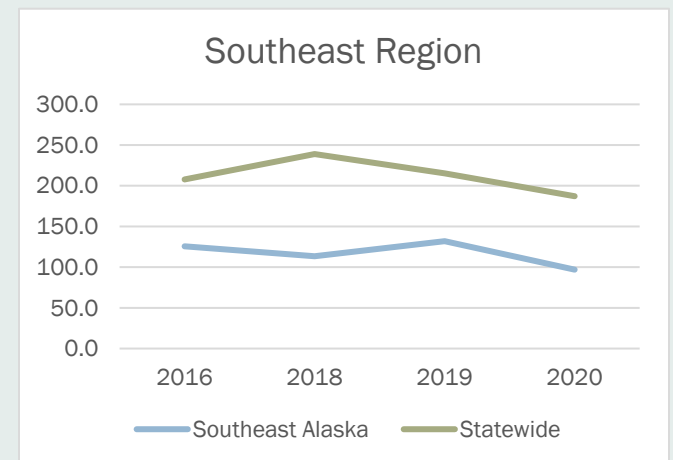
Reporting Agencies:

- Alaska State Troopers A Detachment (servicing Haines, Juneau, Klawock, Ketchikan, Petersburg)
- Craig Police Department
- Haines Police Department
- Juneau Police Department
- Ketchikan Police Department
- Petersburg Police Department
- Sitka Police Department
- Skagway Police Department
- Wrangell Police Department

Southeast Alaska: Race of Victim

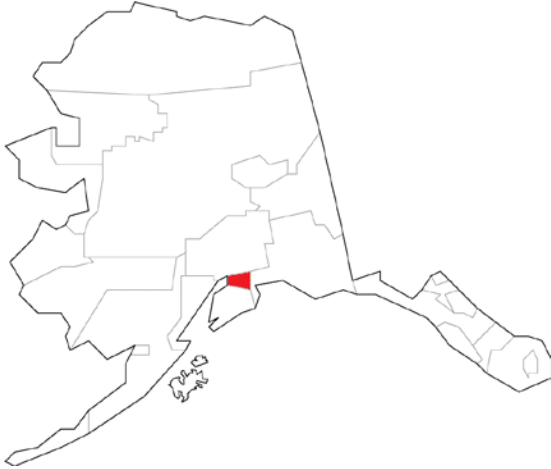


Rates Per 100,000 Population of Felony Level Sex Offenses:



2020 FELONY SEX OFFENSES BY GEOGRAPHIC AREA

Anchorage Alaska



15

Most Common Victim Age

20

Most Common Suspect Age

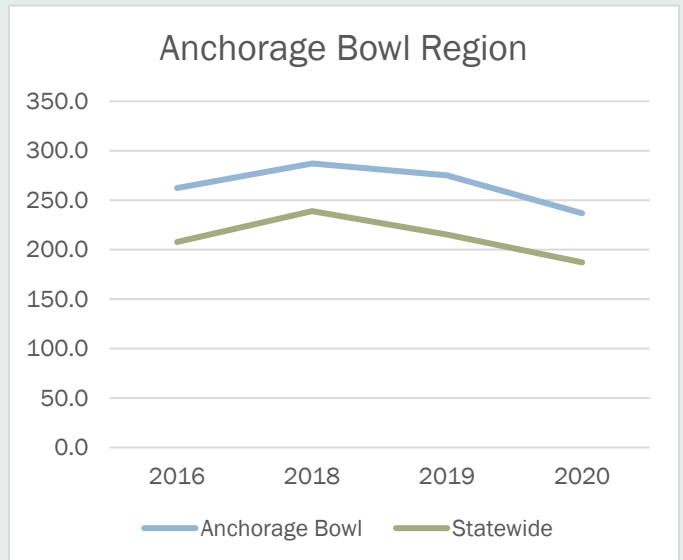
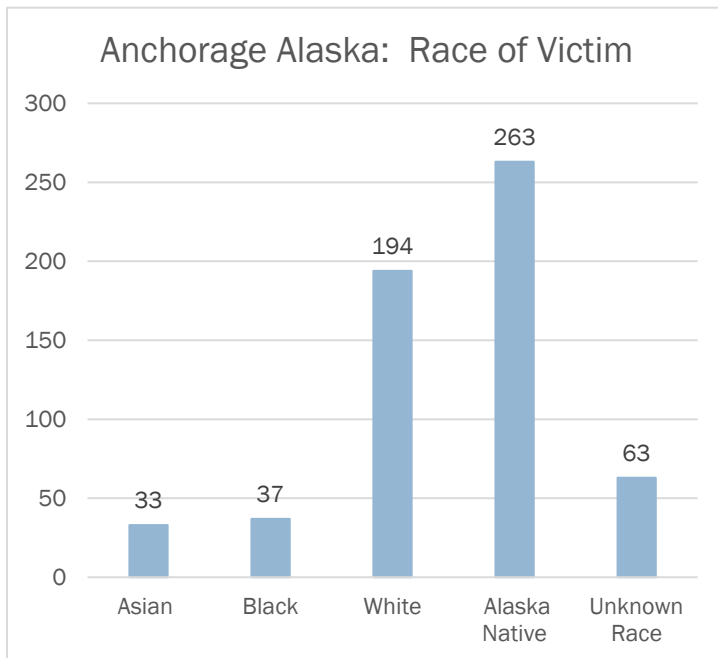
Population (293,531) Includes:

- Anchorage Municipality³

Reporting Agencies:

- Anchorage Airport Police & Fire Department
- Anchorage Police Department
- University of Alaska Anchorage Police Department

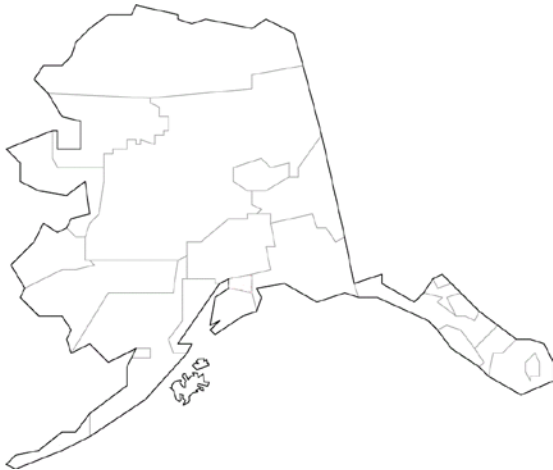
Rates Per 100,000 Population of Felony Level Sex Offenses:



³ The populations of Girdwood, Eagle River, and Chugiak are included in the total population of the Anchorage Municipality. The Girdwood area is serviced by Whittier Police Department who did not contribute to this data collection, while Eagle River and Chugiak are serviced by the Anchorage Police Department who contributed to the data collection.

2020 FELONY SEX OFFENSES BY GEOGRAPHIC AREA

Specialized State Agencies



4

Most Common Victim Age

43

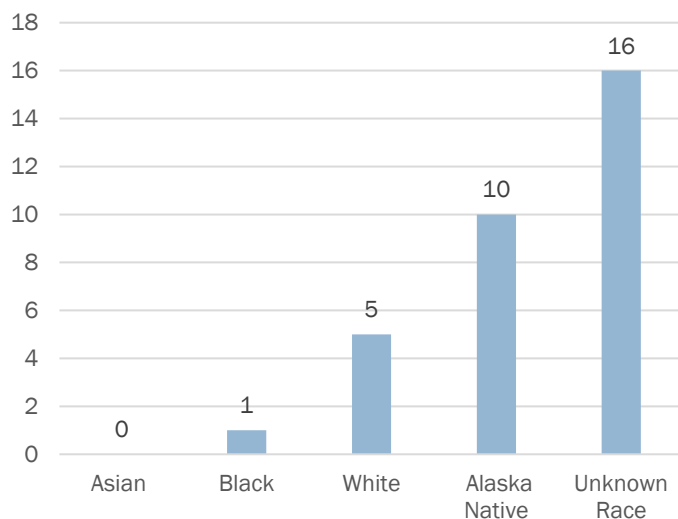
Most Common Suspect Age

Specialized Agencies

- Alaska State Troopers, Alaska Bureau of Investigation
- Alaska Wildlife Troopers

These agencies provide service statewide and do not represent a specified population; therefore, a crime rate is not calculated for these agencies.

Specialized Agencies: Race of Victim



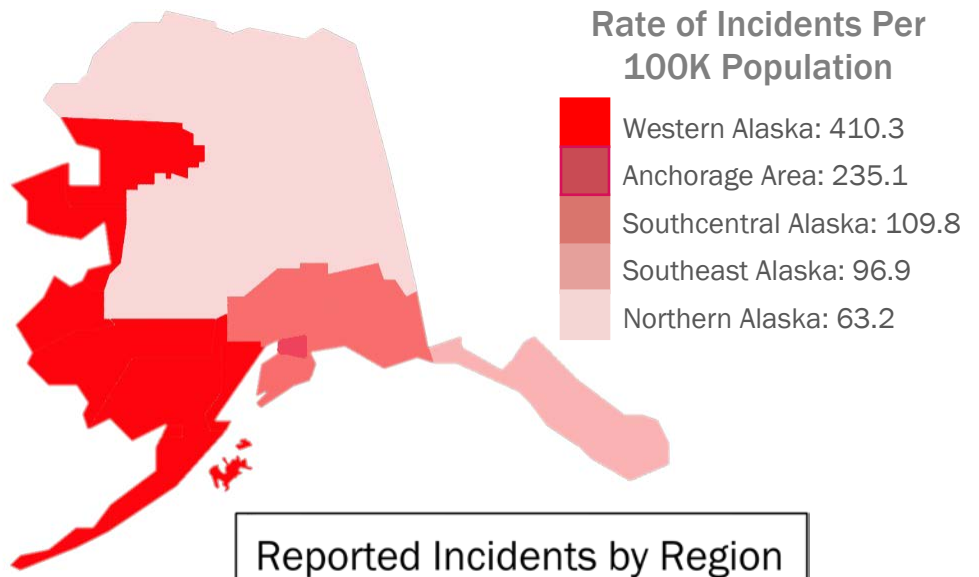
2020 VOLUME AND RATE OF FELONY SEX OFFENSES

Rate of Incidents

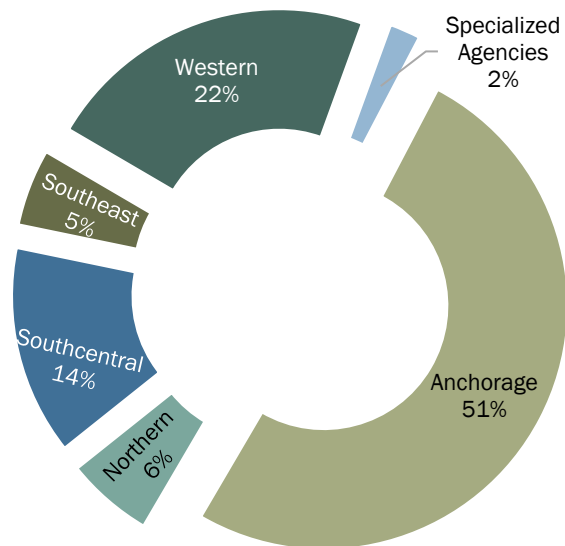
While agencies in the Anchorage area reported the highest volume of incidents (51% of the state total), the Western Alaska region reported the highest rate of incidents based on population.

Both the Anchorage area and Western Alaska have reported rates higher than the statewide rate.

Northern Alaska reported the lowest rate of any region statewide, and Southeast Alaska reported the fewest number of incidents statewide (excluding the Specialized Agencies).



Reported Incidents by Region



Region	2020 Incidents	2019 Population ⁴	Rate per 100K Population
Anchorage Area	690	293,531	235.1
Western Alaska	303	73,850	410.3
Southcentral Alaska	190	173,076	109.8
Northern Alaska	78	123,365	63.2
Southeast Alaska	71	73,246	96.9
Specialized Agencies	31	n/a ⁵	
Statewide Total	1,363	737,068	184.9

⁴ Source: [US Census 2019 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates](#); 2020 estimates not available at the time of this publication

⁵ These agencies provide service statewide and do not represent a specified population; therefore, a crime rate is not calculated for these agencies.

2020 VICTIM INFORMATION⁶

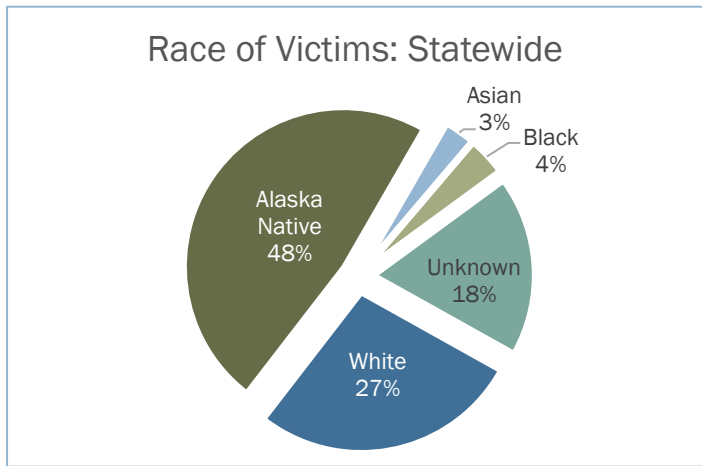
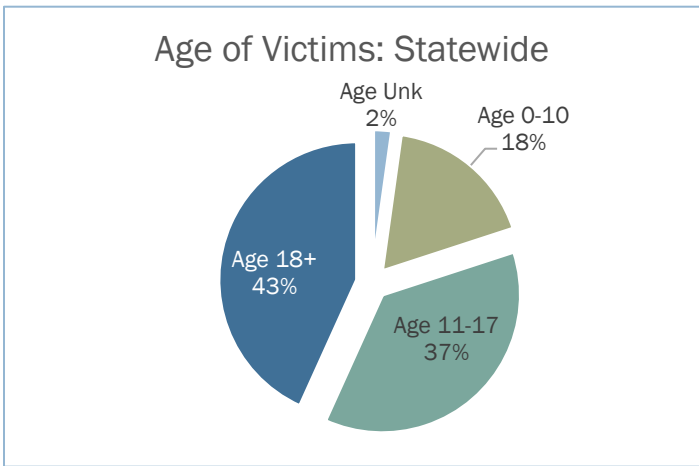
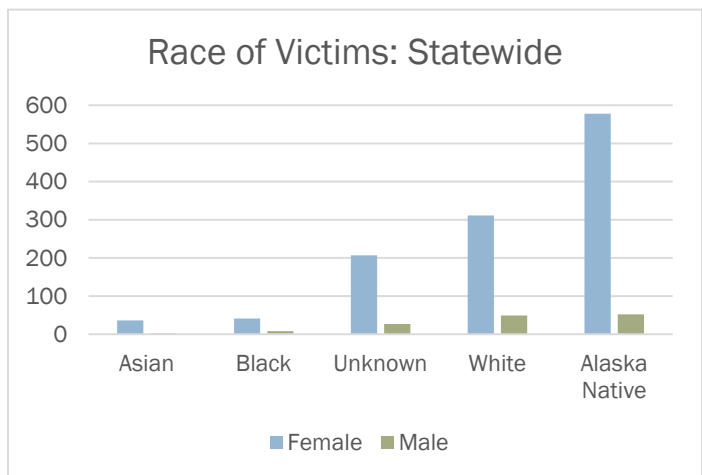
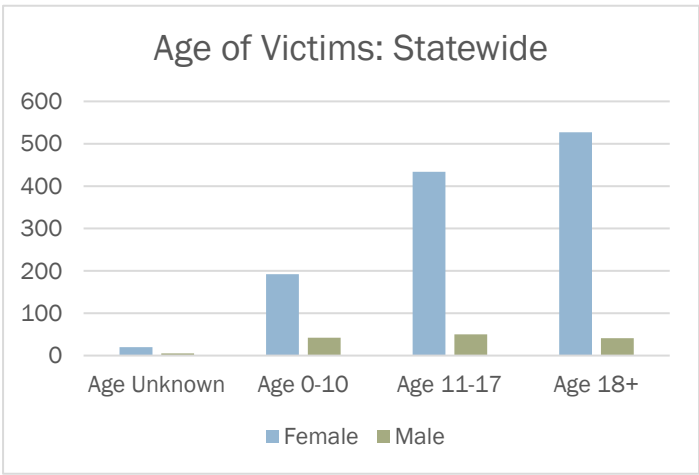
Reported Victim Demographics

Victim Race	Female	Male	Unknown Sex
Alaska Native	576	52	0
White	310	49	0
Race Unknown	204	27	5
Black	40	8	0
Asian	36	2	0

Victim Age Group	Female	Male	Unknown Sex
Age Unknown	20	5	4
Age 0-10	192	41	0
Age 11-17	429	51	0
Age 18+	525	41	1

The median age of female victims statewide was **17** years old, while the most common age was **15**.

The median age of male victims statewide was **15** years old, while the most common age was **16**.



⁶ Not all reported incidents included victim information, and some incidents involved multiple victims. Of the 1,363 reported incidents, at least partial data for 1,309 victims was provided.

2020 SUSPECT INFORMATION⁷

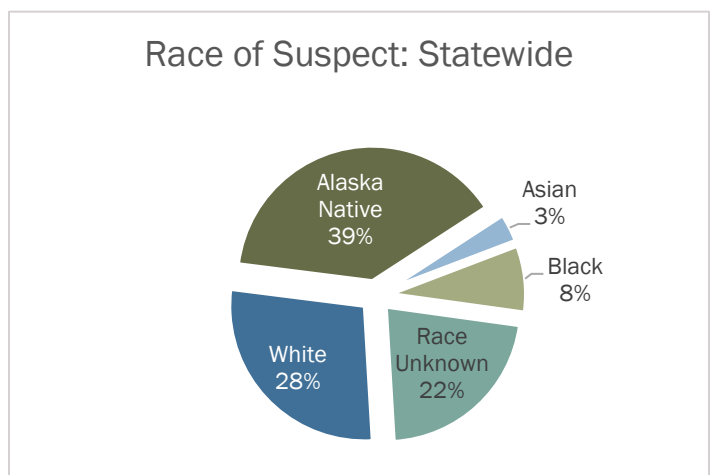
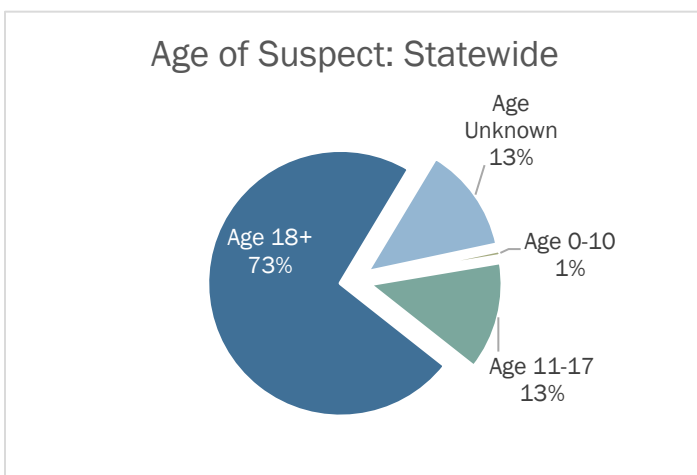
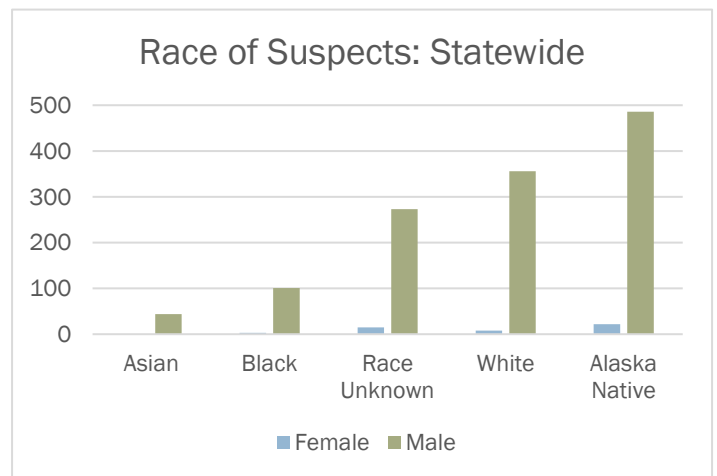
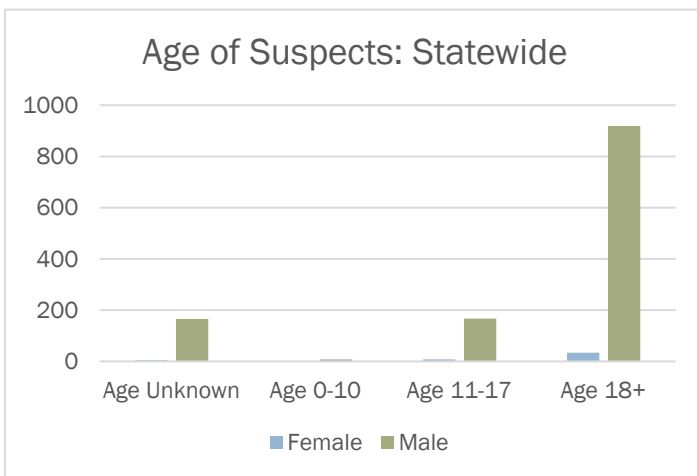
Reported Suspect Demographics

Suspect Race	Female	Male	Unknown Sex
Alaska Native	22	484	0
White	8	356	0
Race Unknown	15	270	56
Black	3	101	0
Asian	0	44	0

Suspect Age	Female	Male	Unknown Sex
Age Unknown	5	165	56
Age 0-10	1	8	0
Age 11-17	8	165	0
Age 18+	34	917	0

The median age of all male suspects was **30** years old, while the most common age was **18**.

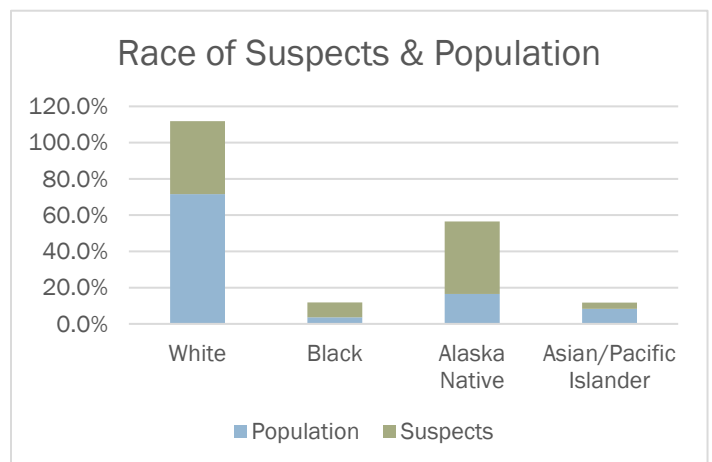
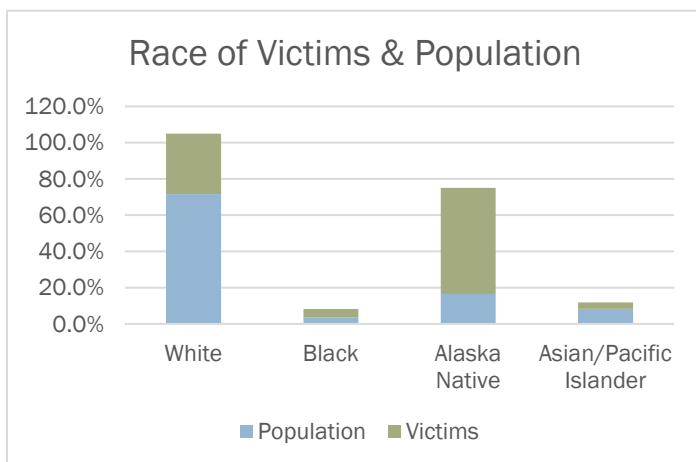
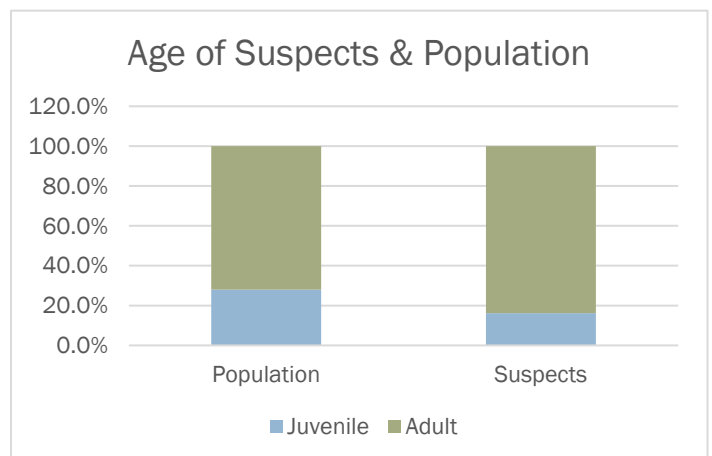
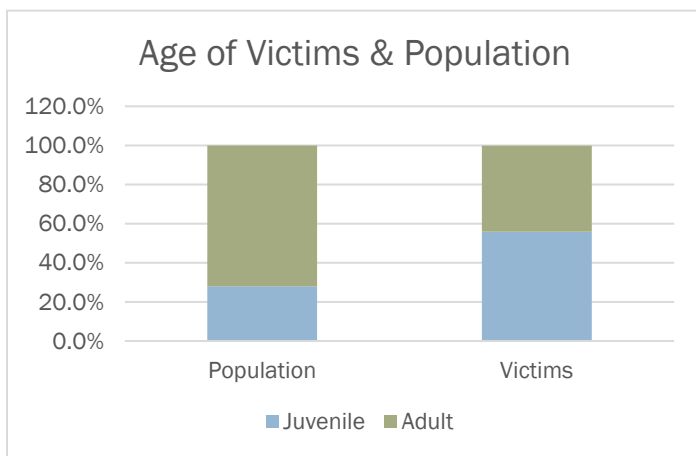
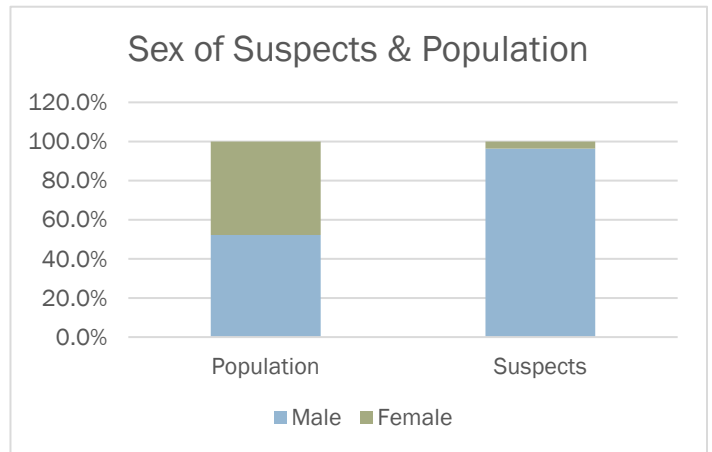
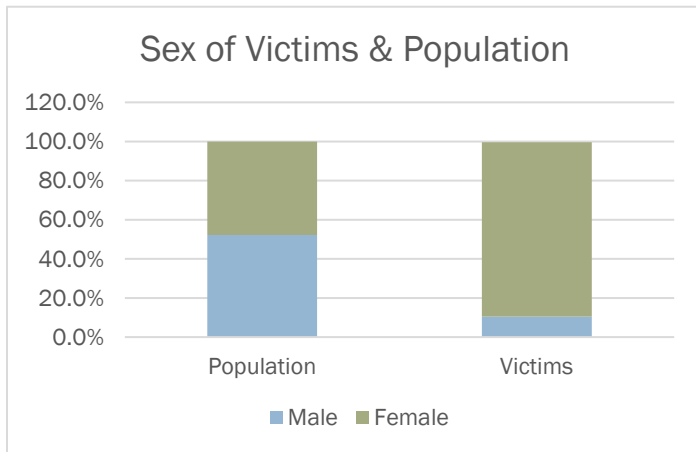
Alaska Native males comprised 48% and white males comprised 35% of reported male suspects with an identified race; suspect race was unknown in 27% of reported incidents.



⁷ Not all reported incidents included suspect information, and some incidents involved multiple suspects. Of the 1,363 reported incidents, at least partial data for 1,359 suspects was provided.

2020 VICTIMS & SUSPECTS RELATED TO POPULATION⁸

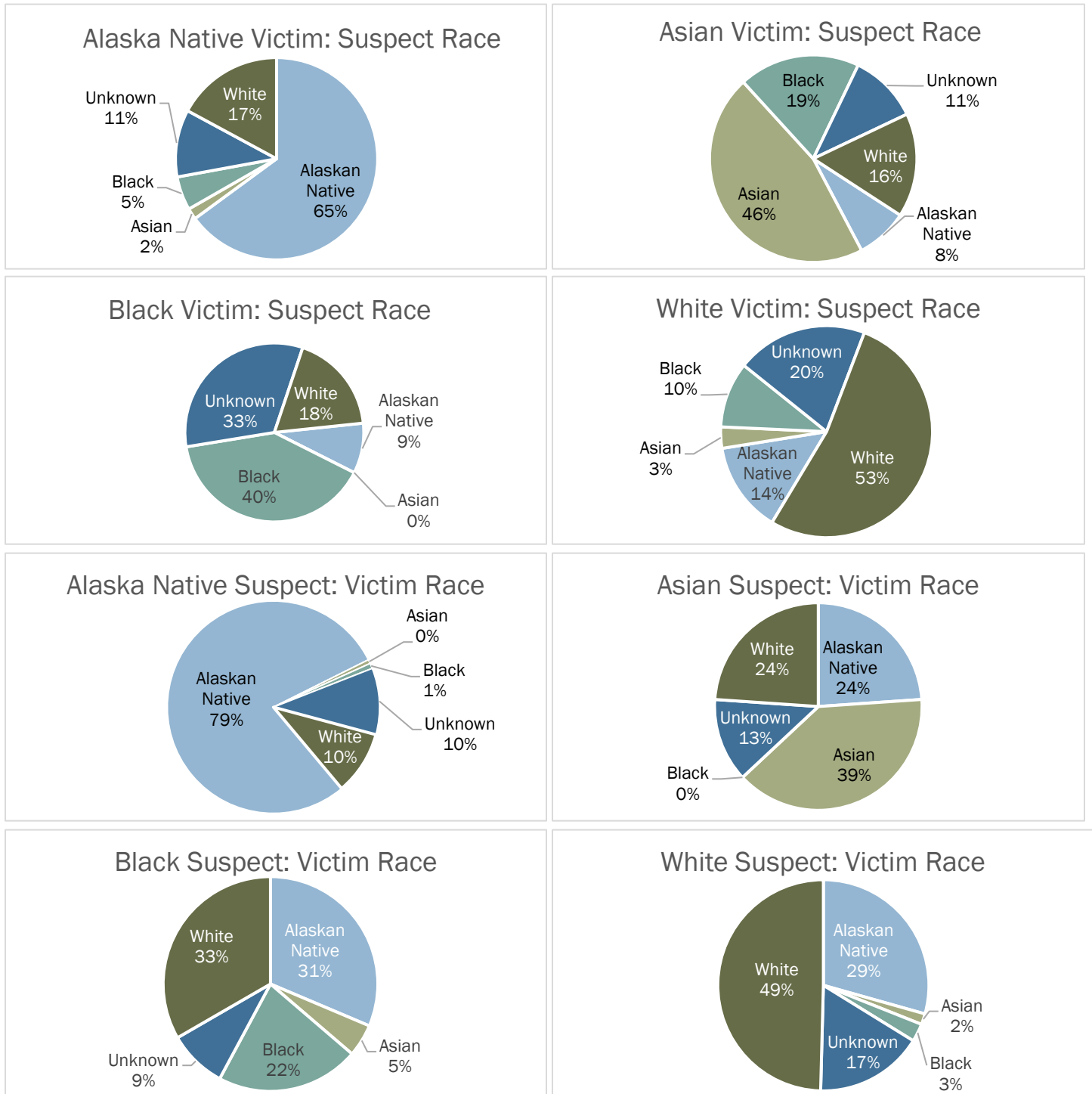
Population Comparison



⁸ Population demographics from U.S. Census Bureau, [2019 American Community Survey 5 Year Estimates](https://www.census.gov/data/tables/2019/acs/5-year-estimates.html). Percentages of race for population does not equal 100.0% to account for multi-race individuals. The Felony Sex Offense (FSO) guidelines advises reporting agencies to report a single race code per individual.

2020 VICTIM/SUSPECT RACIAL RELATIONSHIPS⁹

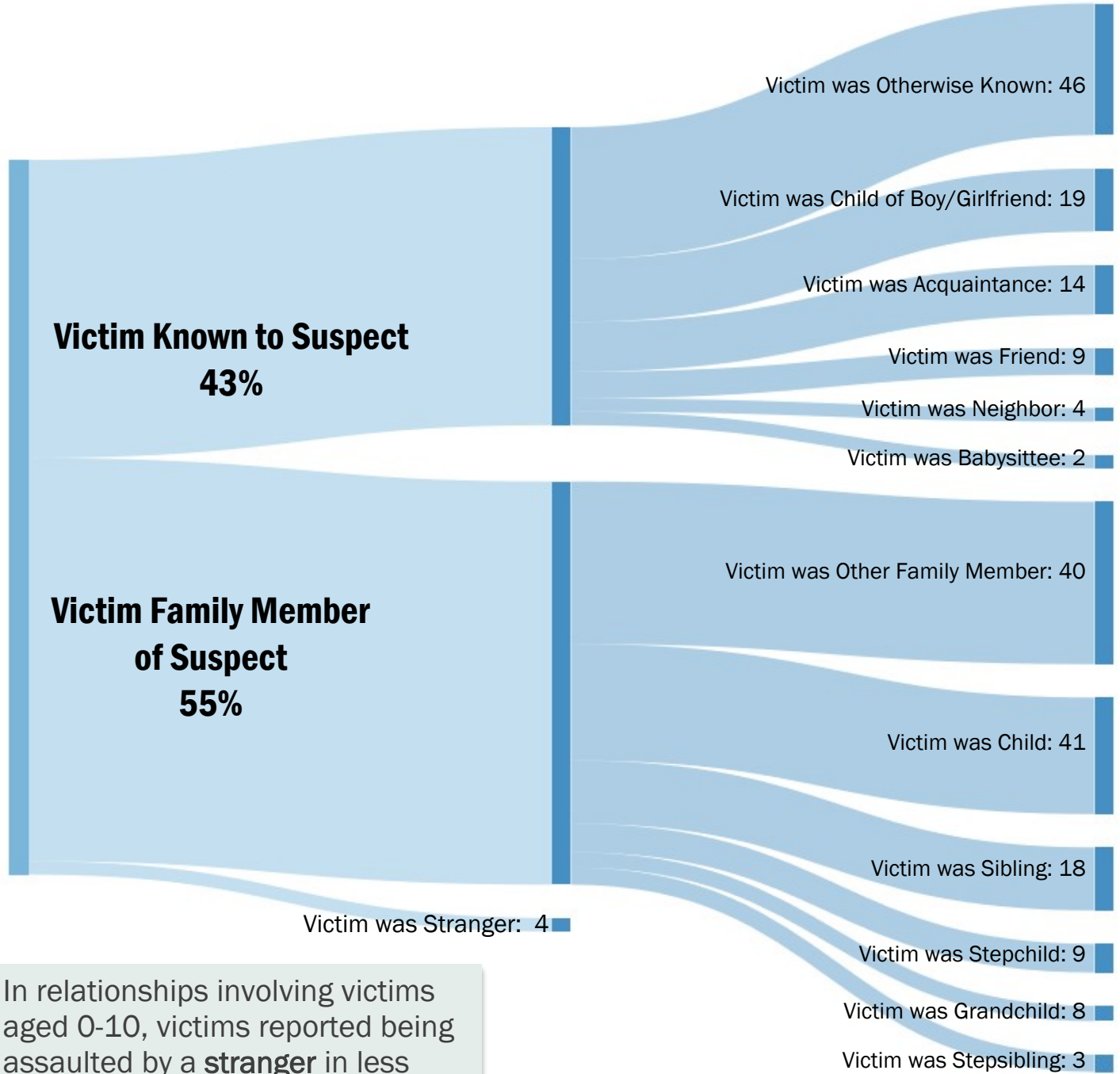
Reported Victim Suspect Racial Comparison



⁹ Not all reported incidents included suspect or victim demographics, and some incidents included multiple suspects or victims. Of the 1,363 reported incidents, at least partial data for 1,309 victims and 1,359 suspects was provided. Race of suspect for victims with unknown race not included, and race of victims for suspect with unknown race not included.

2020 RELATIONSHIP OF VICTIM TO SUSPECT¹⁰

Victims 0-10 Years Old¹¹



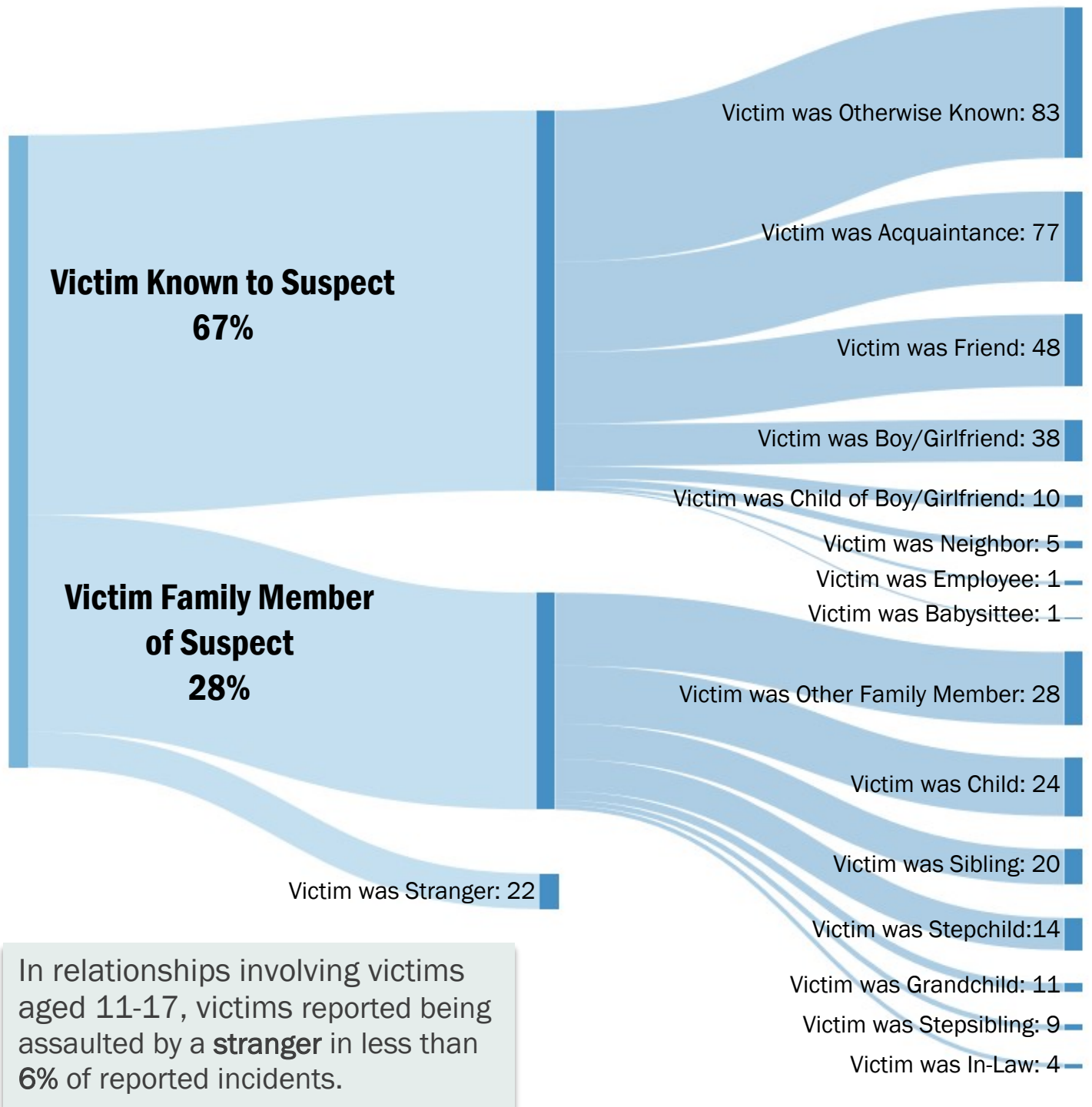
In relationships involving victims aged 0-10, victims reported being assaulted by a **stranger** in less than **2%** of reported incidents.

¹⁰ Not all reported incidents included relationship data. The number of relationships will not equal the number of victims or incidents; with incidents in which multiple victims or suspects are involved, each victim-suspect pair is counted, resulting in more relationships than victims or suspects.

¹¹ For purposes of this publication, "other family member" is defined as any familial relationship excluding a child/parent, grandchild/grandparent, stepchild/stepparent, sibling/stepsibling, spouse, or in-law.

2020 RELATIONSHIP OF VICTIM TO SUSPECT¹²

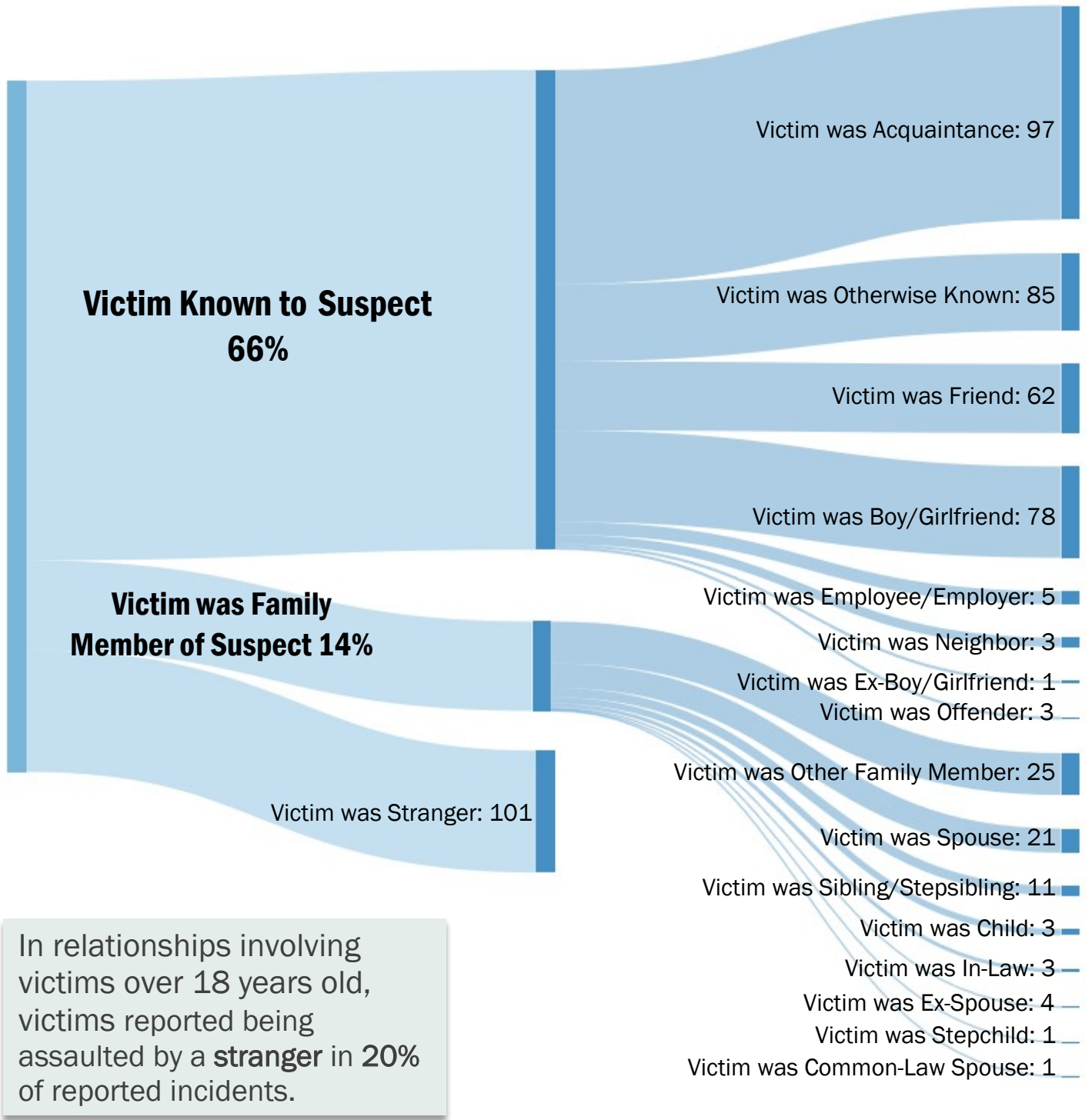
Victims 11-17 Years Old



¹² Not all reported incidents included relationship data. The number of relationships will not equal the number of victims or incidents; with incidents in which multiple victims or suspects are involved, each victim-suspect pair is counted resulting in more relationships than victims or suspects.

2020 RELATIONSHIP OF VICTIM TO SUSPECT¹³

Victims 18+ Years Old



¹³ Not all reported incidents included relationship data. The number of relationships will not equal the number of victims or incidents; with incidents in which multiple victims or suspects are involved, each victim-suspect pair is counted resulting in more relationships than victims or suspects.

2020 LOCATIONS AND WEAPONS¹⁴

Reported Supplemental Data



75% of incident locations were reported as a residence/home

Locations	
Residence/Home	808
Hotel/Motel/Etc.	56
Field/Woods	31
Highway/Road/Alley/Street/Sidewalk	40
Parking/Drop Lot/Garage	18
Park/Playground	23
Camp/Campground	11
Drug Store/Doctor's Office/Hospital	14
School-Elementary/Secondary	7
Daycare Facility	2
Bar/Nightclub	5
Church/Synagogue/Temple/Mosque	3
Jail/Prison/Corrections Facility	9
Lake/Waterway/Beach	13
Government/Public Building	3
Abandoned/Condemned Structure	1
Rest Area	1
Restaurant	3
Commercial/Office Building	2
Air/Bus/Train Terminal	4
School-College/University	14
Shopping Mall	1
Service Gas Station	1
Specialty Store	1
Rental Storage Facility	4
Grocery/Supermarket	1
Shelter-Mission/Homeless	2
Arena/Stadium/Fairgrounds/Coliseum	2
Industrial Site	1
Liquor Store	1
Military Installation	1



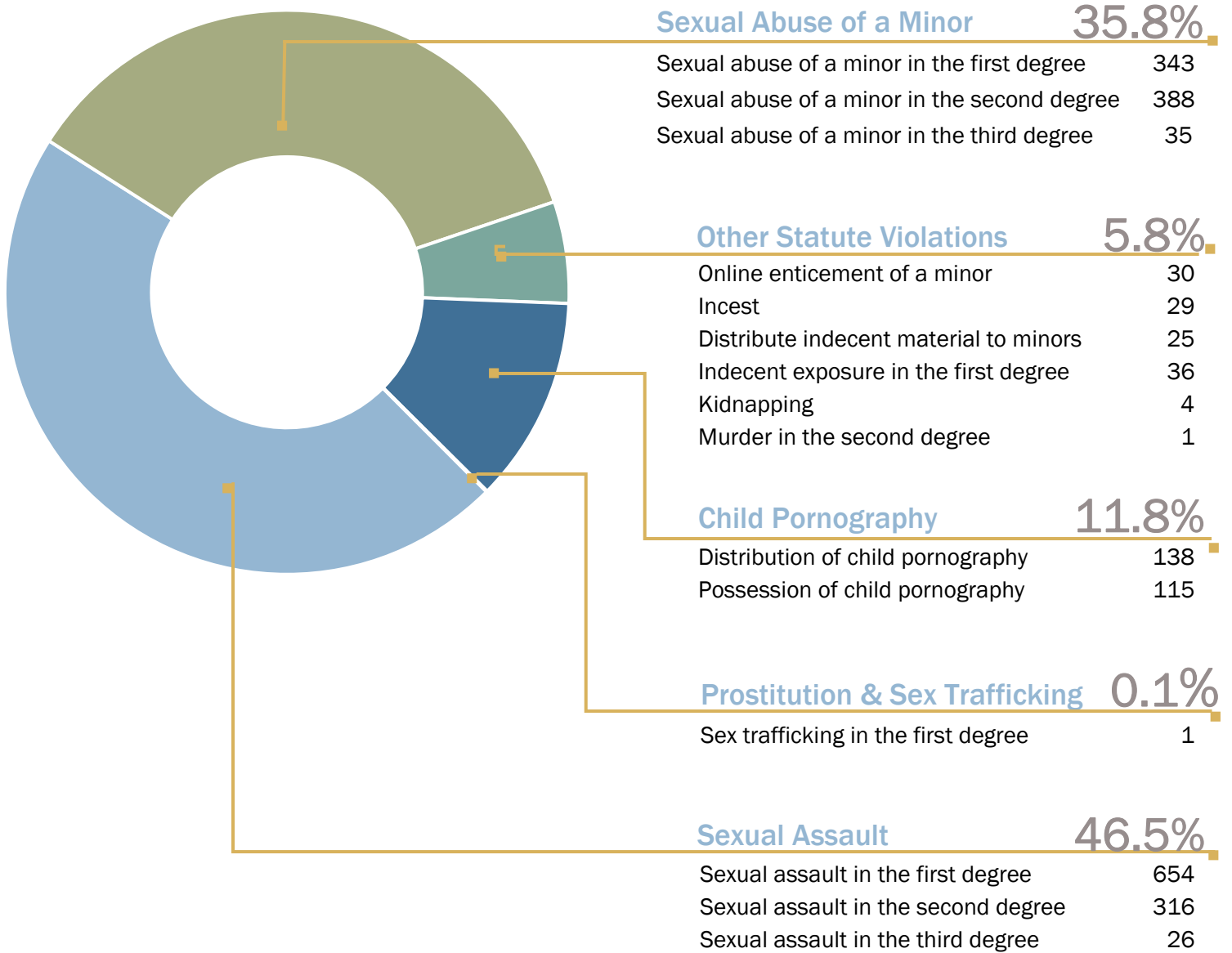
91% of incidents reported did not involve a weapon

Weapons	
None	1001
Personal Weapons	24
Asphyxiation	24
Other	5
Knife/Cutting Instrument	11
Drugs/Narcotics/Sleeping Pills	15
Firearm	7
Handgun	11
Blunt Object	5
Motor Vehicle	1

¹⁴ Not all reported incidents included location and/or weapon data. Of the 1,363 reported incidents, 1,083 locations were provided and identified as other than "Other/Unknown; 1,104 incidents listed weapons other than "Unknown." Location definitions can be found in the FBI's National Incident Based Reporting System [User Manual](#).

STATE STATUTE VIOLATIONS¹⁵

Reported Statutory Offenses



¹⁵ These are counts of potential statute violations reported; there is no direct relationship to victim counts, number of incidents/cases, or actual charges filed.

References and Further Reading

- Alaska State Legislature, [Statutory Definition of Felony Level Sex Offenses](#)
- Alaska State Legislature, [Statutory Requirement of Reporting Uniform Crime Information](#)
- Bureau of Justice Statistics, [National Crime Victimization Survey \(NCVS\)](#)
- Federal Bureau of Investigation, [Crime in the United States 2020](#)
- Federal Bureau of Investigation, [Crime Data Explorer](#)
- Federal Bureau of Investigation, [National Incident Based Reporting - The Structure of Family Violence: An Analysis of Selected Incidents](#)
- Federal Bureau of Investigation, [Sex Offenses Reported via National Incident Based Reporting System in 2013](#)
- Federal Bureau of Investigation, [Uniform Crime Reporting program's rape definition](#)
- State of Alaska Department of Public Safety, [2020 Crime in Alaska Publication](#)
- Department of Public Safety: [Sex Offender/Child Kidnapper Registry](#)
- U.S. Department of Justice: [The Dru Sjodin National Sex Offender Public Website](#)
- University of Alaska Anchorage Justice Center: [Alaska Victimization Survey \(AVS\)](#)
- Bureau of Justice Statistics: [Sexual Assaults Recorded by Law Enforcement, 2019](#)