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2019 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 Department of Public Safety (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 2019 Crime in Alaska Publication show a 7.3% percent decrease in rape offenses reported to law enforcement from 2018 to 2019.

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 2015 show a decline in intimate partner and sexual violence since 2010.

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

Additionally, some data elements of a reportable incident are optional. Not all reported incidents will include location, weapon, relationship, or victim/suspect demographics, and even when provided, may be reported as unknown as is common with child pornography incidents. A single incident may also involve multiple victims or offenders, as well as multiple statute violations.

This is the fifth year that findings from this database have been published.
FELONY SEX OFFENSE FINDINGS
2019 Statewide Summary

Reports of felony level sex offense incidents decreased 10.7% in 2019 compared to 2018, and the number of reported victims decreased 11.1%.

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

Nearly 52% of all reported victims were juveniles.

Victims under the age of 11 reported being assaulted by a family member in 54% of reported offenses. Family member for this age group includes siblings, parents, grandparents, and other family relationships.

Alaska Native females were reported to have the highest victimization rate of any gender or racial group, comprising 50.4% of all reported victims.

The median age of female victims was 18, while the most common age was 15.

The median age of male victims was 10, while the most common age was 5.

In the reported relationships between the victims and suspects, 11% identified the suspect as a stranger. With victims under the age of 11, less than 2% of the reported relationship involved a stranger, whereas 17% of victims aged 18 and over reported the suspect was a stranger.

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

2 In 2015, the Anchorage Police Department reported only the number of incidents with the corresponding statute violation and did not include victim, suspect, location, relationship, or weapon data.
FELONY SEX OFFENSES BY GEOGRAPHIC AREA

Northern Alaska

2019 Population (120,901) 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 Utqiaġvik, 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

- Asian: 0
- Black: 6
- White: 59
- Alaska Native: 64
- Unknown Race: 12

Most Common Victim Age: 15
Most Common Suspect Age: 25
Western Alaska

2019 Population (73,638) 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:
FEELONY SEX OFFENSES BY GEOGRAPHIC AREA

Southcentral Alaska

2019 Population (176,227) 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:

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3 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.
There were multiple occurrences of the suspect common age (30, 18, 13) and the youngest was the default selection, with five occurrences for each age group reported.
2019 Population (288,000) Includes:

- Anchorage Municipality

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:

Anchorage Bowl Region

Anchorage Alaska: Race of Victim

- Most Common Victim Age: 15
- Most Common Suspect Age: 35

- Asian: 53
- Black: 59
- White: 271
- Alaska Native: 324
- Unknown Race: 110

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5 The population of Girdwood, Eagle River, and Chugiak is 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.
FELONY SEX OFFENSES BY GEOGRAPHIC AREA

Specialized State Agencies

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.
While agencies in the Anchorage area reported the highest volume of incidents (50% 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.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Incidents 2019(^6)</th>
<th>2019 Population</th>
<th>Rate per 100K Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anchorage Area</td>
<td>792</td>
<td>288,000</td>
<td>275.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Alaska</td>
<td>349</td>
<td>73,638</td>
<td>473.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southcentral Alaska</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>176,227</td>
<td>64.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Alaska</td>
<td>129</td>
<td>120,901</td>
<td>106.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southeast Alaska</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>72,779</td>
<td>131.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specialized Agencies</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>n/a(^7)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Statewide Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>1574</strong></td>
<td><strong>731,545</strong></td>
<td><strong>215.1</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^6\) From US Census Bureau, Cumulative Estimates of Resident Population Change and Rankings: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2019

\(^7\) These agencies provide service statewide and do not represent a specified population; therefore, a crime rate is not calculated for these agencies.
The median age of female victims statewide was **18** years old, while the most common age was **15**.

The median age of male victims statewide was **10** years old, while the most common age was **5**.

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8 Not all reported incidents included victim information, and some incidents involved multiple victims. Of the 1574 reported incidents, at least partial data for 1645 victims was provided.
The median age of all male suspects was 31 years old, while the most common age was 18.

Alaska Native males comprised 34.5% and white males comprised 31.8% of all reported male suspects; race was unknown in 22.5% of reported incidents.

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Not all reported incidents included suspect information, and some incidents involved multiple suspects. Of the 1574 reported incidents, at least partial data for 1641 suspects was provided.
VICTIMS & SUSPECTS RELATED TO POPULATION

Population Comparison

Population demographics from U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 American Community Survey 5 Year Estimates. Percentages of race for population does not equal 100.0% to account for multi-race individuals. The Felon Sex Offense (FSO) guidelines advise reporting agencies to report a single race code per individual.
VICTIM/SUSPECT RACIAL RELATIONSHIPS\textsuperscript{11}

Reported Victim Suspect Racial Comparison

\textsuperscript{11} Not all reported incidents included suspect or victim demographics, and some incidents included multiple suspects or victims. Of the 1574 reported incidents, at least partial data for 1645 victims and 1641 suspects was provided. Race of suspect for victims with unknown race not included, and race of victims for suspect with unknown race not included.
In relationships involving victims aged 0-10, victims reported being assaulted by a stranger in just 2% of reported incidents.

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.

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

Victims 11-17 Years Old

In relationships involving victims aged 11-17, victims reported being assaulted by a stranger in just 6% of reported incidents.

14 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 that victims or suspects.
Victims 18+ Years Old

In relationships involving victims aged 18 and older, victims reported being assaulted by a stranger in 17% of reported incidents.

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15 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 that victims or suspects.
LOCATIONS AND WEAPONS

Reported Supplemental Data

74% of incident locations were reported as a residence/home

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Locations</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Residence/Home</td>
<td>962</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hotel/Motel/Etc.</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field/Woods</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highway/Road/Alley/Street/Sidewalk</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parking/Drop Lot/Garage</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School/College</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Park/Playground</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Camp/Campground</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drug Store/Doctor's Office/Hospital</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School–Elementary/Secondary</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bar/Nightclub</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake/Waterway/Beach</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government/Public Building</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Church/Synagogue/Temple/Mosque</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daycare Facility</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jail/Corrections Facility</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abandoned/Condemned Structure</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tribal Lands</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial/Office Building</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restaurant</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air/Bus/Train Terminal</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School–College/University</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rental Storage Facility</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grocery/Supermarket</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shopping Mall</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department/Discount Store</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specialty Store</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

86% of incidents reported did not involve a weapon

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weapons</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>None</td>
<td>1066</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal Weapons</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asphyxiation</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knife/Cutting Instrument</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drugs/Narcotics/Sleeping Pills</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Handgun</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Firearm</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blunt Object</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motor Vehicle</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire/Incendiary Device</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Not all reported incidents included location and/or weapon data. Of the 1574 reported incidents, 1300 locations were provided and identified as other than “Other/Unknown”; 1246 incidents listed weapons other than “Unknown.” Location definitions can be found in the FBI’s National Incident Based Reporting System User Manual.
## Reported Statutory Offenses

### Prostitution & Sex Trafficking
- **Prostitution (soliciting or purchasing):** 0
- **Sex trafficking in the first degree:** 5

### Child Pornography
- **Distribution of child pornography:** 7
- **Possession of child pornography:** 53

### Other Statute Violations
- **Online enticement of a minor:** 17
- **Incest:** 15
- **Distribute indecent material to minors:** 10
- **Indecent exposure in the first degree:** 36
- **Kidnapping:** 12
- **Unlawful exploitation of a minor:** 8

### Sexual Assault
- **Sexual assault in the first degree:** 738
- **Sexual assault in the second degree:** 533
- **Sexual assault in the third degree:** 36

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17 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 & 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 2019
° 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, 2019 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)