Governor's Council on Human and Sex Trafficking

Alaska Human and Sex Trafficking Data Summary Document

RA

Release Date: March 16, 2023

Introduction

On December 14, 2021, Governor Dunleavy created the Council on Human and Sex Trafficking (CHST) under Administrative Order (AO) #328. With AO #328, the Governor tasked the CHST with preparing a report that included identifying current gaps in gathering human trafficking information. The CHST formally submitted their final report to the Governor on September 28, 2022 (a copy is available at https://dps.alaska.gov/CHST/home).

On page 17 of the final report, the CHST identified nine (9) gaps specific to identifying trafficking information. On page 18, the CHST provided ten (10) recommended action steps specific to these gaps, including "to compile all existing data sets into one location including definitions of trafficking used by each data source." The CHST and the Data Sub-Committee have created this data summary document in an effort to fulfill this specific recommendation. The data summary document does have some limitations which are outlined below.

In this document, the terms victim and survivor are often used interchangeably. The term survivor is used throughout this document and is defined as *one that emphasizes the strength and resiliency to overcome a trafficking situation*.

DATA OWNERSHIP DISCLAIMER:

This document consists of data that was compiled by the Council on Human and Sex Trafficking (CHST). It represents the data available at the time of collection by the respective reporting agencies. This data was not reviewed for accuracy or validity by the CHST or the CHST Data Sub-Committee.

Information presented in this document does not reflect the official position of the CHST, Alaska Department of Public Safety or of the organizations represented in this document. Please direct any questions related to the information presented in this report to the respective agency or organization.

If you are a human trafficking victim or have information about a potential trafficking situation, call the National Human Trafficking Resource Center (NHTRC) at 1-888-373-7888 or text 233733.

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Alaska Human and Sex Trafficking Data: Section 1



Love Alaska-Priceless

Data from March of 2012 until May of 2022

"Love Alaska exists to equip and mobilize the faith community to serve those that society has marginalized. Our initiative, Priceless is an anti-sex trafficking organization based in Anchorage, Alaska that walks with victims to find a new life while meeting practical needs. Our second initiative, Chosen, exists to pair trained mentors with at-risk youth in Alaska."

Definitions: The following definitions were provided by the source for this specific data set.

- o Survivor is defined as one who has been trafficked, but got out.
- o **Trafficked** is defined as one who was sexually exploited through force, fraud or coercion.
- **Justice** is defined as involving law enforcement and reporting the crime in the hopes of getting criminal charges against the perpetrator.

Demographics:

- Total Served: 223 (unduplicated)
- Age at entry: 9 years of age to 47 years of age
- 50% of clients are Alaska Native
- 25 % identify as LGBTQ+
- 45% of clients have children, but most are not living with them

<u>Mental Health:</u>

- 100% of clients have had suicidal ideations
- 100% of clients have mental health diagnoses
- 30% of clients are receiving treatment

Trauma History:

- 100% have criminal histories
- 75% of juveniles have criminal histories
- 66% have served time in jail
- 100% report a history of sexual abuse as a child
- Nearly 100% identify a family member as the source of abuse
- Nearly 100% of clients have disconnected family relationships
- 20% of past clients have pursed justice, as defined above, by reporting the crimes against them and 0% have been successful in their pursuit to have the perpetrator(s) charged for those crimes.
- 20% of clients spent time in foster care 2017 to present, (65% from 2012-2017)
- 20% of clients use the term "trafficking" when describing their abuse (2017 to present)
- The majority of clients fear being tracked or followed and are fearful for that reason of contacting law enforcement or telling them the truth.

Any questions on this data set should be directed to:

Gwen Adams

Love Alaska, Director/Founder PO BOX 220114 Anchorage, AK 99522 gwena@pricelessalaska.org

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Love Alaska-Priceless

Data from March of 2012 until May of 2022 Continued





Any questions on this data set should be directed to:

Gwen Adams Love Alaska, Director/Founder PO BOX 220114 Anchorage, AK 99522 gwena@pricelessalaska.org "MyHouse is a homeless youth drop in center providing housing, food, clothing, job training, educational assistance, transportation, job training, case management and comprehensive wrap around services to youth aged 14-25 years old who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless."

Definitions: The following definitions were provided by the source for this specific data set.

- o **Client** is a youth who receives services from MyHouse after performing an intake.
- o Current Clients are those who are below the age of 26 and are eligible to receive services.
- o Former Clients are those 26 years old or older, deceased, or otherwise disenrolled from receiving services.
- o **Survivor** is defined as one who has been trafficked, but got out.
- **Labor Trafficking** is the crime of using force, fraud, and/or coercion to induce another individual to provide service.
- o **Sex Trafficking** is the crime of using force, fraud, and/or coercion for the purpose of sexual exploitation or to induce another individual to sell sex.
- o Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES) are potentially traumatic events that occur in childhood (0-17 years).

Demographics:

House

- Total Served: 906 (unduplicated)
- 456 current clients
- 1 reported being labor trafficked
- 37 reported being sex trafficked
- 82% of trafficked clients report mental health conditions
- 77% of trafficked clients report trading sex for needs
- Average age at intake: 19 years old
- 56% of trafficked clients lack vital records for employment and social benefits

Mental Health:

- 50% of trafficking clients have attempted suicide
- Average of 2.4 suicide attempts, per trafficking client
- 47% have engaged in self-harm behaviors

Any questions on this data set should be directed to: James Rogers Sr. Chief Executive of Operations Mat Su Youth Housing (MyHouse) 300 N. Willow St Wasilla AK 99654 (907) 373-4357 jim@myhousematsu.org Average ACES Score of Trafficking Victims: 7

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MyHouse

Data from January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022 Continued



James Rogers Sr. Chief Executive of Operations Mat Su Youth Housing (My House) 300 N. Willow St Wasilla AK 99654 (907) 373-4357 jim@myhousematsu.org

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MyHouse Data from January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022 Continued



Any questions on this data set should be directed to: James Rogers Sr. Chief Executive of Operations Mat Su Youth Housing (MyHouse) 300 N. Willow St Wasilla AK 99654 (907) 373-4357 jim@myhousematsu.org



"At Covenant House Alaska, our people provide absolute respect and unconditional love to youth ages 13-24 who deserve a chance to be the best version of themselves. All Covenant House Alaska program staff work as advocates and allies for youth experiencing homelessness and human trafficking."

Definitions: The following definitions were provided by the source for this specific data set.

- o **Sex Trafficking:** The recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision or obtaining of a person for a commercial sex act.
- o **Quick Youth Indicators for Trafficking (QYIT):** A screening tool developed specifically to screen homeless young adults for potential trafficking experience. This 4 question tool is 86.7% sensitive in determining a trafficking experience.
- o **Trafficking Victim Identification Tool (TVIT):** A longer assessment that is utilized to confirm a trafficking experience once a youth has been screened and identified as potentially having experienced trafficking through the QYIT. This assessment requires an expert in trafficking to administer to determine likelihood of trafficking experience.
- o **Permanent Connection**: A stable, unpaid individual that the youth can call on for advice or assistance in times of need.

Demographics:

- Total youth served: 750
- 203 unduplicated youth were screened for a total of 389 times
- 74 youth answered at least one question affirmatively
- 50 completed TVIT Screening
- 22 youth had a likely /certain TVIT score for sex trafficking
- 4 youth had a likely /certain TVIT score for labor trafficking

Risk Factors:

Covenant House identified 3 common factors amongst their most challenging clients. Of these identified risk factors, 75% of Covenant House victims have 2 or more of the following:

- Less than one permanent connection in their life
- > Suffered from disorders such as substance abuse, mental health or behavioral conditions
- ▶ Had an income of less than \$1,341 monthly

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Covenant House

Data from 7/01/2021-7/01/2022 Continued





Any questions on this data set should be directed to: Heather Hagelberger, Covenant House, Trafficking Prevention and Intervention Program Manager, hhagelberger@covenanthouseak.org, 907-272-1255.

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Covenant House

Data from 7/01/2021-7/01/2022 Continued



Any questions on this data set should be directed to:

Heather Hagelberger, Covenant House, Trafficking Prevention and Intervention Program Manager, hhagelberger@covenanthouseak.org, 907-272-1255. Protecting the Human Rights of Alaskans Promoting Justice & Empowering Survivors

ALASKA INSTITUTE

FOR USTICE

Alaska Institute for Justice Data from January 2020-September 2022

Alaska Institute for Justice (AIJ) is the only non-profit in Alaska that provides statewide legal and language access services for underserved and limited English proficient survivors of human trafficking. AIJ provides a large number of legal services for human trafficking survivors across the state.

Definitions: The following definitions were provided by the source for this specific data set.

- Trafficking Victims: Persons who have been subjected to (1) sex trafficking in which a commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such an act has not attained 18 years of age; or (2) the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud, coercion, for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery. Sex trafficking is defined as the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for the purpose of a commercial sex act. 22 U.S.C. §7102(8); (9); (14), OVC TIMS Database
- **Domestic Servitude:** A form of human trafficking found in distinct circumstances-work in a private residence-that create unique vulnerabilities for victims. It is a crime in which a domestic worker is not free to leave their employment and is abused and underpaid, if at all.



January 2020–September 2022 Highlights

Most Common Services Provided

AlJ Provided Over 3,000 Units of Service in Legal Services to Trafficking Survivors During This Grant



Any questions on this data set should be directed to: **Kari Robinson, JD Alaska Institute for Justice, Deputy Director** 431 West 7th Ave, Suite 208 Anchorage, AK 99501 (907) 279-2457 kari.robinson@akijp.org

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Alaska Institute for Justice Data from January 2020-September 2022 Continued

Trafficking Exploitation Details



AlJ's work has identified that human trafficking survivors are often trafficked by an intimate partner, trusted individual, or family member demonstrating the connection between domestic violence and human trafficking crimes. This aligns with the data below that demonstrates that regardless of trafficking type, the most common trafficking setting throughout the grant was the **private home**.



Any questions on this data set should be directed to: **Kari Robinson, JD Alaska Institute for Justice, Deputy Director** 431 West 7th Ave, Suite 208 Anchorage, AK 99501 (907) 279-2457 kari.robinson@akijp.org **Definitions:** The following definitions were provided by the source for this specific data set.

- **Sex Trafficking** is a form of modern-day slavery in which individuals perform commercial sex through the use of force, fraud, or coercion. Minors under the age of 18 engaging in commercial sex are considered to be victims of human trafficking, regardless of the use of force, fraud, or coercion.
- **Labor Trafficking** is a form of modern-day slavery in which individuals perform labor or services through the use of force, fraud or coercion. Labor Trafficking includes situations of debt bondage, forced labor, and involuntary child labor.
- **National Human Trafficking Resource Center (NHTRC)** is a national, toll-free hotline with specialists available to answer calls from anywhere in the country, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. If you are a human trafficking victim or have information about a potential trafficking situation, call the National Human Trafficking Resource Center (NHTRC) at 1-888-373-7888 or text 233733.



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National Human Trafficking Hotline

Data for Alaska from 2016 to 2020 Continued





Any questions on this data set should be directed to: **National Human Trafficking Hotline** Data accessed 2/15/23 at https://humantraffickinghotline.org/state/alaska.

Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Data from 2016 to 2022

Definitions: The following definitions were provided by the source for this specific data set.

CDVSA

- **Victimization**: The count of individuals who received services based on each presenting victimization type during the reporting period. An individual may be counted in more than one victimization type.
- **Human Trafficking (Labor)**: Obtaining a person through recruitment, harboring, transportation, or provision, and subjecting such a person by force, fraud, or coercion into involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery (not to include commercial sex acts). The following are examples of specific crimes and should be reported as human trafficking (labor): forced labor; labor trafficking; and human trafficking, involuntary servitude.
- **Human Trafficking (Sex)**: Inducing a person by force, fraud, or coercion to participate in commercial sex acts, or the other person induced to perform such act(s) has not attained 18 years of age. The following are examples of specific crimes and should be reported as human trafficking (sex): commercialized sex; sex trafficking; commercialized vice; seduction; human trafficking, commercial sex acts; and transporting persons for prostitution.
- **Enhanced Service Programs**: Grant programs designed to provide funding and support to community, municipal or tribal organizations to serve victims of crime in Alaska.



*The following victim service providers reported the data by region as follows:

Southeast: AWARE, SAFV, WISH, WAVE, HOPE, ANDVSA, CCS, **Southcentral**: CFRC, LSC, AFS, SCS, AVV, SPHH, KIT, TCP, CRB, **Anchorage**: AWAIC, VFJ, STAR, ACMH, PAMC, VOAA, **Northern**: IAC, AWIC, RCPC, TCC, BSWG, **Western**: KWRCC, TWC, USAFV, BSWG, MFCC, SAFE, EWS

Any questions on this data set should be directed to: **Catherine Mohn** CDVSA, Research Analyst 3 (907)465-1161 catherine.mohn@alaska.gov

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Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

Data from 2016 to 2022 Continued



* The following agencies reported the data by region as follows:

Southeast: AWARE, SAFV, WISH, WAVE, HOPE, ANDVSA, CCS, **Southcentral**: CFRC, LSC, AFS, SCS, AVV, SPHH, KIT, TCP, CRB, **Anchorage**: AWAIC, VFJ, STAR, ACMH, PAMC, VOAA, **Northern**: IAC, AWIC, RCPC, TCC, BSWG, **Western**: KWRCC, TWC, USAFV, BSWG, MFCC, SAFE, EWS



Any questions on this data set should be directed to: **Catherine Mohn** CDVSA, Research Analyst 3 (907)465-1161

Catherine.mohn@alaska.gov

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Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Data from 2016 to 2022 Continued





Any questions on this data set should be directed to: **Catherine Mohn** CDVSA, Research Analyst 3 (907)465-1161 Catherine.mohn@alaska.gov



"In August 2020, AHFC was awarded a \$500,000 grant offered by the Department of Justice (DOJ), specifically from the Office of Justice Programs (OJP). With these funds, AHFC has implemented the Survivors Assistance for Escaping Trafficking (SAFE-T) Program, which provides transitional housing and supportive services to survivors through sub-grantees MyHouse and Interior Center for Nonviolent Living.

In addition to sub-grantees providing transitional housing options and supportive services, MyHouse has developed a robust coalition to address human trafficking and build statewide engagement. The coalition, Alaska Stop Human Trafficking Alliance (ASHTA) hosts monthly meetings with various speakers and most recently has prioritized working with state officials to create legislation that improves outcomes for trafficking victims."

Definitions: The following definitions were provided by the source for this specific data set.



• **Human Trafficking** : Using force, fraud or coercion to obtain some type or labor or commercial sex act.

Any questions on this data set should be directed to: **Statewide Homeless Housing Office** 4300 Boniface Parkway Anchorage, Alaska 99504 Direct: 907-330-8255 Toll-free: 833-330-8255 housingoffice@ahfc.us



Definitions: The following definitions were provided by the source for this specific data set.

- **Human Trafficking** is the illegal exploitation of a person.
- **Sex Trafficking:** When individuals are compelled through force, fraud or coercion to engage in a commercial sex act or if the person has not yet reached 18 years of age.
- **Labor Trafficking:** When individuals are compelled by force, threats or fraud to perform a labor or service.

Under it's Human Trafficking Program, the Federal Bureau of Investigation investigates matters where a person was induced to engage in a commercial sex act or any labor or service through force, fraud, or coercion or the person has not yet attained 18 years of age.

Sex Trafficking Cases*:

- Number of people charged: 10
- Number of victims: 9
- Number of victims identified: 11
- Average Sentence for Traffickers: 23.4 Years
- Range of Sentence for Traffickers: 13-35 Years

* Data from Trafficking in Persons, 2017. Data based on six sex trafficking cases that resolved between December 2021-May 2022 (FBI/Anchorage Police Department Task Force). Presented in May 2022.

If you are a human trafficking victim or have information about a potential trafficking situation, call the National Human Trafficking Resource Center (NHTRC) at 1-888-373-7888 or text 233733.

Any questions on this data set should be directed to: **Federal Bureau of Investigation** 101 E 6th Avenue Anchorage, AK 99501 (907) 276-4441



Alaska Department of Public Safety Data from January 2014-May 2022

Definitions: The following definitions were provided by the source for this specific data set.

- Sex Trafficking: See Alaska statutes in Appendix.
- **Patron:** A person who solicits illegal sexual conduct.



For more information on Human Trafficking in Alaska, you may go to https://dps.alaska.gov/Statewide/R-I/UCR to view the DPS Crime in Alaska Report or to https://cde.ucr.cjis.gov/LATEST/webapp/#/pages/home to view

the FBI Crime Data Explorer.

*Please note: UCR definitions and State definitions are different.

Any questions on this data set should be directed to: **Chanelle Lauger** Research Analyst 4, Department of Public Safety, Public Information Requests & Research Unit (907) 269-5100 chanelle.lauger@alaska.gov



Alaska Department of Law Data from December 2010-2021





* The specific statutes enforced by Department of Law as referenced in appendix

Any questions on this data set should be directed to: **Chris Darnall** Assistant Attorney General, Alaska Department of Law, Office of Special Prosecution 907-269-6250 chris.darnall@alaska.gov

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Alaska Department of Law

Data from December 2010-2021 Continued





Any questions on this data set should be directed to: **Chris Darnall** Assistant Attorney General, Alaska Department of Law, Office of Special Prosecution 907-269-6250 chris.darnall@alaska.gov

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Alaska Department of Law

Data from December 2010-2021 Continued





Any questions on this data set should be directed to: **Chris Darnall** Assistant Attorney General, Alaska Department of Law, Office of Special Prosecution 907-269-6250 chris.darnall@alaska.gov

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Alaska Department of Law

Data from December 2010-2021 Continued

Referred Case Disposition Status			
2010 -2021	Human Trafficking (HT)	Sex Trafficking (ST)	Prostitution (P)
Referrals	5	46	95
Declined	1	11	24
Accepted as <i>HT/ST/P</i>	3	34	68
Accepted (other)	1	1	3
Disposed	2	30	68
Dismissal	1	9	21
Not Guilty	0	0	1
Conviction: HT/ST/P	0	33	38
Conviction: Other Felony	2	4	11
Conviction: Other Misdemeanor	0	0	16
Pending	1	4	0

Any questions on this data set should be directed to: **Chris Darnall** Assistant Attorney General, Alaska Department of Law, Office of Special Prosecution 907-269-6250 chris.darnall@alaska.gov



Definitions: The following definitions were provided by the source for this specific data set.

- **Juvenile**: A person under 18 years old who is accused of committing a crime that is being handled in the juvenile justice system, unless the case is moved into adult court.
- Trauma Screening Tool (TST): A 15-question Division of Juvenile Justice developed screening tool that all youth under court-ordered probation supervision or residing in detention and institutional treatment facilities are administered for exposure to traumatic experiences.



*Juveniles: The number of individual juveniles that were administered the Trauma Screening Tool (TST). Juveniles may be re-screened if a TST has not been done in the last 6 months. It is with this caveat that some "yes" answers may or may not be a result of a juvenile who may have been screened more than once.

> Any questions on this data set should be directed to: **Kira Bishop** Deputy Director of Operations, Division of Juvenile Justice Department of Family and Community Services 907-261-4399 kira.bishop@alaska.gov



Office of Children's Services (OCS) Data from January 2017-May 31, 2022

Definitions: The following definitions were provided by the source for this specific data set.

- **Sex Trafficking:** The recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision or obtaining of a person for a commercial sex act.
- **Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC):** Sexual abuse and payment in money, goods or services or the promise of money, goods or services to the child victim or a third person or persons for the sexual use of a child.
- Online Resources for the Children of Alaska (ORCA): OCS's main database.
- **Child Protective Services Report (PSR)**: A report received by intake of abuse or negligence. Multiple reports may be received for one case. Reporters include mandatory reporters (by state statute) such as police, child educators, medical providers or mental health providers, child care providers, etc. or members of the general public, including relatives, neighbors that may have observed the incident(s). There may be more than one report of harm associated with a single instance of alleged abuse.
- Initial Assessment (IA)/Investigation: CPS reports that have been screened by OCS.
- **Case:** A PSR after it is "screened" by an OCS intake worker becomes a new case or is linked to an existing case.
- **Screening**: A process whereby a PSR is evaluated to determine whether it meets the threshold criteria for an initial assessment/investigation.
- **Characteristic**: Added to the documentation of a case to describe a prevalent aspect of a case such as poverty, drug abuse or trafficking. It is an observation documented by OCS, not an allegation.

Trafficking Data from OCS Cases with Sex Trafficking Characteristics:

- Total CPS Reports with a sex trafficking characteristic: 296
- Total Cases with a sex trafficking characteristic: 266
- Total Children: **55*** (one child may show up in more than one case)
- Distinct Children: 47*
- Investigations with a sex trafficking characteristic : 60

In April 2016, OCS began documenting sex trafficking in ORCA as a characteristic of an Initial Assessment (IA) or Child Protective Service (CPS) report. **However, this characteristic was not directly attached to a child's identification number until June 2020.** *Therefore, the total number of children linked to a sex trafficking characteristic in the data represented above is significantly less than the number of total cases in CPS reports that had a sex trafficking characteristic.

Any questions on this data set should be directed to: **Richard Bloomquist, MSW** Social Services Program Coordinator, Child Advocacy Center/ Children's Justice Act Task Force Programs, Office of Children's Services 130 Seward Street, Ste 406 Juneau, AK 99801 Phone: (907) 465-3207 Fax: (907) 465-3656 richard.bloomquist@alaska.gov Selected Trafficking Risk Factors: Section 2

Office of Children's Services: Runaway Data Data from January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2021

Runaways are documented in ORCA as **Out of Home (OOH)** placement end reasons or discharge reasons so all runaways documented are OOH children. Many children who run away while in OOH care do so multiple times so both the number of children and how many times they ran away are represented in the data below.



Any questions on this data set should be directed to:

Richard Bloomquist, MSW

Social Services Program Coordinator, Child Advocacy Center/ Children's Justice Act Task Force Programs, Office of Children's Services 130 Seward Street, Ste 406 Juneau, AK 99801 Phone: (907) 465-3207 Fax: (907) 465-3656 richard.bloomquist@alaska.gov

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Office of Children's Services: Runaway Data Data from January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2021 Continued



Runaways by OCS Region: 1/1/17 – 5/31/2021		
Dagion	Distinct	Runaway
Region	Children	Events
Anchorage	138	254
Northern	99	225
Southcentral	83	180
Southeast	31	57
Western	32	59

Any questions on this data set should be directed to:

Richard Bloomquist, MSW

Social Services Program Coordinator, Child Advocacy Center/ Children's Justice Act Task Force Programs, Office of Children's Services 130 Seward Street, Ste 406 Juneau, AK 99801 Phone: (907) 465-3207 Fax: (907) 465-3656 richard.bloomquist@alaska.gov

Anchorage Police Department: Runaway Data Data from 2017 to 2022



Number of Reported Runaways by Year

* Not discreet juveniles

Any questions on this data set should be directed to: Anchorage Police Department SVU/CACU/Cyber Crimes 716 W 4th Ave, Anchorage, AK 99501 Office: (907) 786-8730

Alaska Department of Public Safety: Runaway Data Data from 2011 to 2021



Missing Juvenile Incident Reports By Year

*DPS was not using ARMS (Alaska Records Management System) to track incidents in 2011

This data reflects all juvenile missing person reports made to DPS during this time frame and may include instances of custodial interference, search and rescue situations, or other missing persons reports that would not be considered a runaway juvenile under the common definition.

This query was limited to incidents assigned to the Alaska State Troopers or Alaska Wildlife Troopers during the requested timeframes. Out of the 2,332 investigative reports, there were only 3 mentions of trafficking, human or sex (trafficking related) from 2011-2021, which is 0.13% of runaway juveniles. At this point, there is insufficient evidence to conclude a causal relationship between missing juveniles and sex or human trafficking. **This data does not represent discreet juveniles**.

Any questions on this data set should be directed to: **Chanelle Lauger** Research Analyst 4, Department of Public Safety, Public Information: Requests & Research Unit (907) 269-6239 chanelle.lauger@alaska.gov



Adverse Childhood Experiences Among 3-Year-Olds, Alaska

Published: Nov. 2022

What are Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)?

ACEs are potentially traumatic events that occur in childhood (0 -17 years), such as experiencing abuse or neglect, witnessing violence in the home or community, or having a family member attempt or die by suicide. Also included are aspects of a child's environment that can undermine their sense of safety, stability, and bonding, such as growing up in a household with substance misuse, mental health problems, or instability due to parental separation or incarcerated household members.*

ACEs are preventable. Safe, stable, nurturing relationships and environments are essential to children's health and well-being. Supporting these types of relationships and environments can reduce children's risk for ACEs.





Figure 2: Weighted percent of ACEs experienced among children aged 3 years in Alaska. Data from ALCANLink.



ACEs Are Common Among Children

Among 3-year-olds in Alaska, **47.3%** of children have experienced at least one ACE, and **9.1%** have experienced four or more ACEs. Among Alaskan boys, **9.2%** experienced four or more ACEs compared to **8.9%** of girls (ALCANLink, birth years 2009 - 2017). The most common household challenge experienced by children aged 3 years in Alaska was **financial hardship** (about 23% of children) – marked by parents reporting being unable to pay bills. Related, roughly 19% of children had a parent lose employment during the child's early childhood.

ALCANLink

The Alaska Longitudinal Child Abuse and Neglect Linkage Project (ALCANLink) links pre-birth factors assessed through the Alaska Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS) to early childhood factors assessed through the Childhood Understanding Behaviors Survey (CUBS). PRAMS surveys approximately 1 out of every 6 Alaskan mothers of newborns on their experiences pre-, during, and post-pregnancy. CUBS is a follow-up survey sent three years later to most PRAMS respondents still living in the state. It asks about the health and early childhood experiences of young children in Alaska.



Adverse Childhood Experiences Among 3-Year-Olds, Alaska

These data are linked annually to administrative data to track demographics, movement out of state, and death. Data are also linked to OCS and Department of Education & Early Development records to examine welfare and education outcomes for the children.

https://health.alaska.gov/dph/wcfh/Pages/mchepi/ALCANlink/default.aspx

ACEs Are Risk Factors For Trafficking

Inadequate education, limited employment opportunities, and fragmented social support systems increase the risk of commercial sexual exploitation of children. Experiencing abuse and/or neglect, domestic violence, system-involvement (e.g., juvenile justice, child welfare), and mental, emotional, or physical disabilities further increases human trafficking risk.^{1, 2} These and other risk factors mirror ACEs, suggesting that **ACE prevention efforts would also benefit child trafficking prevention**.

Alaska Risk and Prevention Research

ALCANLink documented connections between prebirth household challenges – those experienced by the birthing parent immediately prior to and/or during pregnancy – and ACE scores,³ poor education outcomes,⁴ and child maltreatment.⁵

Addressing pre-birth household challenges experienced by pregnant individuals could serve as early intervention against elevated ACEs and trafficking risk for Alaskan children. Intervention programs must also continue to offer support to families throughout the child's early childhood to address new household challenges that arise.

The CDC offers six strategies to prevent ACEs⁶ (Figure 4) that support early and continuous family support efforts. Other opportunities include connecting families to local community resources such as Help Me Grow and promoting warm handoffs between prenatal, birth, and pediatric care. Figure 3: Relative rate ratio of expected average ACE score predicted by pre-birth household challenges (compared to 0 household challenge households). Data from ALCANLink.



Figure 4: Six CDC strategies for ACE prevention.

Strengthen economic supports to families	Promote social norms that protect against violence and adversity
Ensure a strong start for children (home visitation; high quality childcare, preschool)	Skill-based learning
Connect youth to caring adults and activities	Intervene to lessen immediate and long- term harms

Authors: Riley Fitting & Robyn Husa, Alaska WCFH, DPH, DOH

 4 Husa et al. (2022). Pre-birth household challenges predict future child's school readiness and academic achievement. *Children*, 9(3), 414.

¹: Kinnish et al. (2021). Child sex trafficking: Who is vulnerable to being trafficked. Los Angeles, CA, and Durham, NC: National Center for Child Traumatic Stress.

² Reid et al. (2017). Human trafficking of minors and childhood adversity in Florida. *AJPH Research*, *107*(2), 306-311.

³ Rittman et al. (2020). Prebirth householdchallenges to predict adverse childhood experiences score by age 3. *Pediatrics*, 146(5), e20201303.

⁵ Parrish et al. (2011). Identifying risk factors for child maltreatment in Ala ska. *AmJ Prev Med*, 40(6), 666-673.

⁶ CDC (2019). Preventing Adverse Childhood Experiences: Leveraging the Best Available Evidence. Atlanta, GA:

National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.



Alaska Victimization Survey (AVS) Data from 2020

The Alaska Victimization Survey (AVS) was prepared for the Council on Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault (CDVSA) by the University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA) Justice Center with support from the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority. Mental and behavioral health items were added to the AVS for the first time in 2020, allowing for an estimate of the extent to which victims of intimate partner violence and sexual assault may have been Alaska Mental Health Trust beneficiaries.

Definitions: The following definitions were provided by the source for this specific data set.

- Alaska Mental Health Trust: The Alaska Mental Health Trust provides leadership in the advocacy, planning, implementing and funding of services to ensure that Alaska has a comprehensive integrated mental health system for Trust beneficiaries. The Trust works on behalf of all beneficiaries, but does not provide individual services.
- **Trust Beneficiary**: Alaskans who experience mental illness, developmental disabilities, chronic alcoholism, Alzheimer's disease and related disorders, and/or traumatic brain injury.

Data Trends:

The AVS 2020 estimated that persons who may be Alaska Mental Health Trust (Trust) beneficiaries were more likely to experience intimate partner violence and sexual violence. Over their entire lifetime, women who were possibly Trust beneficiaries were 1.6 times more likely to have experienced intimate partner violence, sexual violence or both than women who were non-beneficiaries.

The AVS 2020 found, "women who may have been Trust beneficiaries were 1.4 to 2.4 times more likely to have reported each type of ACE." The table on the following page depicts Alaskan women by total number of ACE's category and possible Trust beneficiary status.

The AVS findings show "women who were identified as possible Alaska Mental Health Trust beneficiaries were twice as likely to have 4 or more ACE's (53.4%) compared to non-beneficiaries (26.6%). Conversely, non-beneficiaries were nearly three times as likely to have experienced zero ACE's compared to possible Alaska Mental Health Trust beneficiaries (25.1% vs. 8.9%)." 3 out of 4: Women in Alaska who were possibly Alaska Mental Health Trust · beneficiaries experienced intimate partner violence, sexual violence, or both in their lifetime

Any questions on this data set should be directed to: **Dr. Ingrid Johnson** idjohnson@alaska.edu (907) 786-1126

Full AVS data set available at https://scholarworks.alaska.edu/handle/11122/7782



Alaska's Council on Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault

Data from January 2020 Continued



Appendix: Definitions

Human Trafficking:

The use of force, fraud, or coercion to compel a person into labor or commercial sex in order to exploit them.²²

Labor Trafficking:

Human Trafficking (Labor): Obtaining a person through recruitment, harboring, transportation, or provision, and subjecting such a person by force, fraud, or coercion into involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery (not to include commercial sex acts). The following are examples of specific crimes and should be reported as human trafficking (labor): forced labor; labor trafficking; and human trafficking, involuntary servitude.²³

Federal law utilizes the **<u>Action-Means-Purpose (AMP)</u>** model to establish a situation of human trafficking. The action of human trafficking includes recruiting, transporting, harboring, providing, or obtaining a person.

- Recruiting: proactively targeting and grooming the vulnerable
- Transporting: moving or arranging travel
- Harboring: isolating, confining, or monitoring
- Providing: giving to another individual
- Obtaining: taking or exchanging something for control

The means of human trafficking includes the use of force, fraud, or coercion.

- Force: physical restraint or harm, sexual assault, or beatings
- Fraud: false promises regarding employment, wages, marriage, or better life
- Coercion: threats of serious harm or physical restraint, psychological manipulation, document confiscation, threatening to share information or pictures with others, or threatening to report to authorities

The purpose of human trafficking for the purpose of exploitation in one or more of the following forms:

- Sex Trafficking: forcing another individual to sell sex
- Labor Trafficking: forcing another individual to work or provide service²⁴

Human trafficking: Using force, fraud or coercion to obtain some type of labor or commercial sex act.²⁵ Labor trafficking is the crime of using force, fraud, and/or coercion to induce another individual to work or provide service.²⁶

The recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services such as domestic work, sweatshop, agriculture, and the food industry through the use of force, fraud, or coercion.²⁷

Sex Trafficking:

Human Trafficking (Sex): Inducing a person by force, fraud, or coercion to participate in commercial sex acts, or the other person induced to perform such act(s) has not attained 18 years of age. The following are examples of specific crimes and should be reported as human trafficking (sex): commercialized sex; sex trafficking; commercialized vice; seduction; human trafficking, commercial sex acts; and transporting persons for prostitution.²⁸

Sex trafficking is the crime of using force, fraud, and/or coercion for the purpose of sexual exploitation or to induce another individual to sell sex.²⁹

Sex trafficking is defined as the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining a person for the purpose of a commercial sex act. 22 U.S.C. §7102(8); (9); (14).³⁰

Appendix Definitions

Victims:

Trafficking Victims: Persons who have been subjected to:

(1) sex trafficking in which a commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such an act has not attained 18 years of age;

or

(2) the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud, coercion, for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery.³¹

<u>Survivor</u>: A term that emphasizes the strength and resiliency to overcome a trafficking situation. The term survivor may be used interchangeably with victim.³²

22 U.S. Department of Justice | FBI uses this definition

23 CDVSA

- 24 Office of Trafficking in Persons, 2017
- 25 Alaska Housing Finance Corporation

26 MyHouse

27 Alaska Institute for Justice

28 CDVSA

29 MyHouse

30 Alaska Institute for Justice

31 Alaska Institute for Justice

32 https://htcbc.ovc.ojp.gov/sites/g/files/xyckuh311/files/media/document/Practical_Guide_Survivor_Informed_Services.pdf

Appendix: Alaska Human and Sex Trafficking Statutes

Offense Citation	Offense Description - Human Trafficking
AS 11.41.360	Human Trafficking in the First Degree - Participate
AS 11.41.365	Human Trafficking In the Second Degree - Benefit From

Offense Citation	Offense Description - Sex Trafficking
AS 11.66.110(a)(1)	Sex Trafficking in the First Degree, Use Force
AS 11.66.110(a)(2)	Sex Trafficking in the First Degree, Person <20
AS 11.66.110(a)(3)	Sex Trafficking in the First Degree, Person in Custody
AS 11.66.120	Sex Trafficking in the Second Degree
AS 11.66.120(a)(1)	Sex Trafficking in the Second Degree, Run Enterprise
AS 11.66.120(a)(2)	Sex Trafficking in the Second Degree, Procure Customer
AS 11.66.120(a)(3)	Sex Trafficking in the Second Degree, Offer Travel for Sex
AS 11.66.130	Sex Trafficking in the Third Degree
AS 11.66.135	Sex Trafficking in the Fourth Degree

Offense Citation	Offense Description - Prostitution
AMC 8.65.020(a)	Engage in Prostitution/Assignation
AMC 8.65.030(a)	Solicit Another for Prostitution
AMC 8.65.040(a)	Offer/Secure Another for Prostitution
AMC 8.65.050(a)	Transport Another for Prostitution
AMC 8.65.060(a)	Maintain/Operate Place of Prostitution
AMC 8.65.070(a)	Own/Lease Place Used for Prostitution
AMC 8.65.080(a)	Accept Thing of Value for Prostitution
AMC 8.65.090(a)	Remain in Place for Prostitution
AMC 8.65.100(a)	Coerce/Induce Another to be a Prostitute
AMC 8.65.110(a)	Loiter for Solicitation for Prostitution
AS 11.66.100(a)(1)	Engage in Prostitution
AS 11.66.100(a)(2)	Patron of Prostitute Under 18 Years Old
AS 11.66.130(a)(1)	Receive Compensation from Prostitution of Another
AS 11.66.130(a)(2)(A)	Own/Manage/Control Place of Prostitution
AS 11.66.130(a)(2)(B)	Induce/Cause Person 20+ to Prostitute
AS 11.66.130(a)(2)(C)	Knowingly Derive Profit from Prostitution
AS 11.66.130(a)(2)(D)	Institute/Aid/Facilitate Prostitution Enterprise
AS 11.66.135(a)(1)	Receive Compensation from Prostitution of Another
AS 11.66.135(a)(2)	Institute/Aid/Facilitate Prostitution Enterprise
KMC 9.20.010	House of Prostitution/Procuring
KMC 9.20.020	Engage in Prostitution

All statutes in this document were current at the time of publication (3/16/23). To ensure you are using the most current state statutes, please go to <u>https://www.akleg.gov/basis/</u><u>statutes.asp.</u>

Appendix: Alaska Human and Sex Trafficking Statutes

Alaska Statute 11.41.360 | Human Trafficking in the First Degree

(a) A person commits the crime of human trafficking in the first degree if the person compels or induces another person to engage in sexual conduct, adult entertainment, or labor in the state by force or threat of force against any person, or by deception.

(b) In this section,

- (1) "adult entertainment" means the conduct described in AS 23.10.350(f)(1) (3);
- (2) "deception" has the meaning given in AS 11.46.180;
- (3) "sexual conduct" has the meaning given in AS 11.66.150.
- (c) Human trafficking in the first degree is a class A felony.

Alaska Statute 11.41.365 | Human Trafficking in the Second Degree

(a) A person commits the crime of human trafficking in the second degree if the person obtains a benefit from the commission of human trafficking under AS 11.41.360.

(b) Human trafficking in the second degree is a class B felony.

Alaska Statute 11.66.100 | Prostitution

- (a) A person commits the crime of prostitution if the person
 - 1) engages in or agrees or offers to engage in sexual conduct in return for a fee* or;
 - 2) offers a fee in return for sexual conduct.
- (b) In a prosecution under (e) of this section, it is an affirmative defense that, at the time of the

alleged offense, the defendant

- 1) reasonably believed the prostitute to be 18 years of age or older; and
- 2) undertook reasonable measures to verify that the prostitute was 18 years of age or older.

Alaska Statute 11.66.110 | Sex Trafficking in the First Degree

- (a) A person commits the crime of sex trafficking in the first degree if the person
 - (1) induces of causes another person to engage in prostitution through the use of force;

(2) as other than a patron of a prostitute, induces or causes another person who is under 20 years of age to engage in prostitution; or

- (3) induces or causes a person in that person's legal custody to engage in prostitution.
- (b) In a prosecution under (a)(2) of this section, it is not a defense that the defendant reasonably believed that the person induced or caused to engage in prostitution was 20 years of age or older.
- (c) Except as provided in (d) of this section, sex trafficking in the first degree is a Class A felony.
- (d) A person convicted under (a)(2) of this section is guilty of an unclassified felony.

Appendix: Alaska Human and Sex Trafficking Statutes

Alaska Statute 11.66.120 | Sex Trafficking in the Second Degree

(a) A person commits the crime of sex trafficking in the second degree if the person

(1) manages, supervises, controls, or owns, either alone or in association with others, a prostitution enterprise other than a place of prostitution;

(2) procures or solicits a patron for a prostitute; or

(3) offers, sells, advertises, promotes, or facilitates travel that includes commercial sexual conduct as

enticement for the travel; in this paragraph, "commercial sexual conduct" means sexual conduct for which anything of value is given or received by any person.

(b) Sex trafficking in the second degree is a class B felony.

Alaska Statute 11.66.130 | Sex Trafficking in the Third Degree

(a) A person commits the crime of sex trafficking in the third degree if the person

- (1) receives compensation for prostitution services rendered by another; and
- (2) with the intent to promote prostitution,

(A) manages, supervises, controls, or owns, either alone or in association with others, a place of prostitution;

(B) as other than a patron of a prostitute, induces or causes another person who is 20 years of age or older to engage in prostitution;

(C) receives or agrees to receive money or other property under an agreement or understanding that the money or other property is derived from prostitution; or

- (D) engages in conduct that institutes, aids, or facilitates a prostitution enterprise.
- (c) Sex trafficking in the third degree is a class C felony.

Alaska Statute 11.66.135 | Sex Trafficking in the Fourth Degree

(a) A person commits the crime of sex trafficking in the fourth degree if the person

- (1) receives compensation for prostitution services rendered by another; and
- (2) engages in conduct that institutes, aids, or facilitates prostitution under circumstances not proscribed under AS 11.66.130(a)(2)(D).

(c) Sex trafficking in the fourth degree is a class A misdemeanor.

All statutes in this document were current at the time of publication (3/16/23). To ensure you are using the most current state statutes, please go to https://www.akleg.gov/basis/statutes.asp

Appendix: Thank You

We would like to extend special thanks to each of the entities that provided data for this Data Summary Document. These trusted agency partners are listed below;

Special Thanks to: Love Alaska: Priceless **MyHouse Covenant House Alaska Institute for Justice National Human Trafficking Hotline Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (CDVSA) Alaska Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC)** Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) **Department of Public Safety (DPS) Department of Law (LAW) Department of Health Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) Office of Children's Services (OCS) Anchorage Police Department** Alaska Victimization Survey (AVS), CDVSA

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