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Sexual Violence in Alaska Data Resources



PREPARED FOR

State of Alaska

Division of Public Health

Section of Women's Children's and Family Health

Rape Prevention Education Program

PREPARED BY

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Sexual Violence in Alaska: Data Resources

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Table of Contents

Introduction.....	1
Purpose.....	1
Definitions.....	1
Organization.....	1
Data Sources.....	1
Prevalence of Sexual Violence.....	3
Data.....	3
Sexually Violent Crimes.....	3
Childhood Experiences.....	3
Youth.....	3
Adults.....	4
Prevalence of Sexual Violence by Gender.....	5
Data.....	5
Sexually Violent Crimes.....	5
Childhood Experiences.....	5
Youth.....	6
Adults.....	6
Prevalence of Sexual Violence by Race & Ethnicity.....	9
Data.....	9
Sexual Violent Crimes.....	9
Childhood Experiences.....	9
Youth.....	10
Prevalence of Sexual Violence by Regions.....	12
Data.....	12
Sexually Violent Crime.....	12
Youth.....	12
Adults.....	14
Prevalence of Sexual Violence by Sexual Orientation.....	15
Data.....	15
Childhood Experiences.....	15
Youth (National Data Only).....	15
Adults (National Data Only).....	15
Prevalence of Sexual Violence by Disability.....	16
Data.....	16
Childhood Experiences.....	16
Adults (National Data Only).....	16
Sexual Violence Impacts on Health Risk Behavior & Chronic Disease.....	17
Childhood Experiences.....	17
Appendix A: Public Health Regions.....	19

List of Tables

Table 1. Data Sources	2
Table 2. Sexual Violence Victimization, High School Youth, 2017	4
Table 3. Victims of Felony Level Sex Offense, By Age and Gender, 2017	5
Table 4. Suspects of Felony Level Sex Offense, By Age and Gender, 2017	5
Table 5. Sexual Violence Victimization by Gender, Alaska High School Youth, 2017	6
Table 6. Sexual Violence Victimization by Gender, Alaska High School Youth, 2017	6
Table 7. Percentage of Male Perpetrators in Lifetime Reports of Sexual Violence Among Female Victims, 2010-2012 Average Annual Estimates	7
Table 8. Lifetime Prevalence of Sexual Violence Victimization, Female Victims, 2010-2012 Average Annual Estimates	8
Table 9. Lifetime Prevalence of Sexual Violence Victimization, Male Victims, 2010-2012 Average Annual Estimates	8
Table 10. Victims of Felony Level Sex Offense, by Race and Gender, 2017	9
Table 11. Percentage of Adults Who Experienced Childhood Sexual Abuse, by Race/Ethnicity, 2013-2015	10
Table 12. Sexual Violence Victimization by Race and Ethnicity ^a , Alaska High School Youth, 2017	11
Table 13. Felony Level Sex Offenses, Reports by Region, 2017	12
Table 14. Prevalence of Sexual Violence, High School Students, by Alaska Public Health Region, 2017	13
Table 15. Percentage of Students Who Had Ever Been Physically Forced to Have Sexual Intercourse When They Did Not Want To, by Alaska Public Health Regions, 2015	13
Table 16. Lifetime Prevalence of Sexual Violence Among Women in Alaska, Regions in Alaska, Data Collected Between 2011 and 2015.....	14
Table 17. Percentage of Adults in Alaska Ever Experienced Childhood Sexual Abuse, by Sexual Orientation, 2013-2015.....	15
Table 18. Percentage of Adults in Alaska Ever Experienced Childhood Sexual Abuse, by Disability Status, 2013-2015.....	16
Table 19. Prevalence of Health Risk Behaviors, Chronic Health Conditions and Mental Health Conditions, by Childhood Sexual Abuse Status, Alaska, 2013-2015.....	18

Purpose

State of Alaska Rape Prevention Education Program (RPE) aims to prevent sexual violence before it happens by identifying and addressing contributing factors, including both protective and risk factors. Risk and protective factors combine to increase or decrease the probability of perpetration and victimization. To inform grant writing, program development, and funds allocation for RPE, this document serves as a resource; it presents the best publicly available data to establish the prevalence of sexual violence in Alaska.

Definitions

“**Sexual violence**” is a broad, non-legal term that refers to a variety of unwanted sexual acts. Sexual violence is defined as any conduct of a sexual nature that is non-consensual.¹ Sexual violence may involve a range of acts, including rape, sexual coercion, unwanted sexual contact (e.g., fondling), and verbal harassment or other unwanted non-contact. Sexual violence can be accomplished through threat, coercion, exploitation, deceit, force, physical or mental incapacitation, and/or power of authority.² Sexual violence can occur at any age and can be perpetrated by parents, family members, teachers, peers, acquaintances and strangers, as well as by intimate partners.

Organization

Data highlight the prevalence of sexual violence among youth and adults, or crime data related to sexual violence. Where available, data are organized by various population subgroups, including age, gender, race, sexual orientation, or disability status. Each chapter summarizes data and its relevance. Where available, data are displayed by Public Health Regions. The Alaska Public Health Regions are defined in Appendix A: Public Health Regions.

Data Sources

Table 1 provides the full name for each data source, as well as the abbreviation used, and a detailed citation. Most data come from the Alaska Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), Alaska Uniform Crime Report (UCR), Alaska Victimization Survey (AVS), and the Alaska Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS).

¹ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Sexual Violence Definitions, 2018.

² Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance, 2009.

YRBS data are reported from two separate sources: The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) online YRBS query tool and the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) online query tool. When comparing the results of the Alaska YRBS to national results, data were retrieved from the CDC query tool. Where available, queries for data by population group or region were completed in the DHSS query module called AK-IBIS.

Table 1. Data Sources

Full Name	Source Abbreviation	Detailed Citation
Alaska Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System	BRFSS	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System Survey Data. Atlanta, Georgia: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, with Alaska Department of Health and Social Services. Accessed September 2018, http://ibis.dhss.alaska.gov/query/builder/BRFSS23/BRFSS_S/XACESEXS.html
Alaska Uniform Crime Report	AK UCR	State of Alaska Department of Public Safety, "Felony Level Sex Offenses, 2017: Crime in Alaska Supplemental Report," Alaska Department of Public Safety, August, 2018, https://dps.alaska.gov/getmedia/12954bff-11ae-47d3-9709-3b3e4ab2d76d/2017-Felony-Level-Sex-Offenses .
Alaska Victimization Survey	AVS	"Alaska Victimization Survey (AVS) Justice Center University of Alaska Anchorage," accessed September 27, 2018, https://www.uaa.alaska.edu/academics/college-of-health/departments/justice-center/research/alaska-victimization-survey/index.cshml .
Bureau of Justice Statistics	BJS	Erika Harrell, "Crime Against Persons with Disabilities, 2009-2015 - Statistical Tables," Statistical Tables, 2017, 17, https://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/capd0915st.pdf .
Youth Risk Behavior Survey	YRBS	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). 1991-2017 High School Youth Risk Behavior Survey Data. Available at http://nccd.cdc.gov/youthonline/ . Accessed on 10/2/2018.
Alaska Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System	AK YRBS	Alaska Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System, Alaska Department of Health and Social Services, Division of Public Health, Section of Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion. Available at http://ibis.dhss.alaska.gov/query/selection/yrbsl23/YRBSSelection.html . Accessed July 2018.
National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey	NISVS	Smith, S.G., Chen, J., Basile, K.C., Gilbert, L.K., Merrick, M.T., Patel, N., Walling, M., & Jain, A. (2017). The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (NISVS): 2010-2012 State Report. Atlanta, GA: National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Prevalence of Sexual Violence

Overall Summary Statement: Where comparable data are available, the prevalence of sexual violence victimization among adults is greater in Alaska than in the U.S. as a whole.

Data

Sexually Violent Crimes

- In 2017, the statewide rate of reported felony sex offense incidents was 199.4 per 100,000 population.³
- In 2015, the rate of forcible rape among Alaska women was three times greater than the national rate, at 88.0 offenses per 100,000 Alaska women compared to 28.1 per 100,000 women nationally.⁴

Childhood Experiences

- The three-year average (2013-2015) for experience of childhood sexual abuse among Alaskan adults is 13.7 percent.⁵ Comparable national data during the same time period are not available.⁶

Youth

- According to 2017 YRBS data, 8.2 percent of Alaska high school students have ever been physically forced to have sexual intercourse.⁷
- The prevalence of experiencing sexual violence by anyone among Alaska high school youth is 10.7 percent. Nationally, the prevalence is 9.7 percent.⁸
- Among Alaska high school students reporting they had dated or went out with someone, 5.5 percent of students reported that they had been physically forced to do sexual things by someone they dated in the past year.⁹
- In 2017, there was no statistically significant difference between the prevalence of sexual violence among youth in Alaska and youth in the U.S. as a whole.

³ State of Alaska Department of Public Safety, "Felony Level Sex Offenses, 2017: Crime in Alaska Supplemental Report," Alaska Department of Public Safety, August 2018, <https://dps.alaska.gov/getmedia/12954bff-11ae-47d3-9709-3b3e4ab2d76d/2017-Felony-Level-Sex-Offenses>.

⁴ Alaska Department of Health and Social Services, "AK-IBIS - Health Indicator Report - Rape (HA2020 Leading Health Indicator: 12)," AK-IBIS, January 25, 2017, <http://ibis.dhss.alaska.gov/indicator/view/Rape.HAR.html>.

⁵ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System Survey Data. Atlanta, Georgia: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, with Alaska Department of Health and Social Services. Accessed September 2018, http://ibis.dhss.alaska.gov/query/builder/BRFSS23/BRFSS_S/XACESEXS.html

⁶ In 2010, ten states and Washington, DC included the optional ACEs (Adverse Childhood Experiences) module on the state BRFSS survey. This represents the largest collection of BRFSS ACE data. The prevalence of childhood sexual abuse among adults from those ten states and Washington, DC in 2010 was 10.9 percent. (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "About Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System ACE Data," March 22, 2018, https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/acestudy/ace_brffss.html.)

⁷Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). 1991-2017 High School Youth Risk Behavior Survey Data. Available at <http://nccd.cdc.gov/youthonline/>. Accessed on 10/2/2018.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Ibid.

Table 2. Sexual Violence Victimization, High School Youth, 2017

	Alaska	United States
Types of Sexual Violence	Percent (CI)	Percent (CI)
Ever forced to have sexual intercourse	8.2 (6.3-10.5)	7.4 (6.3-10.5)
Experienced sexual violence by anyone	10.7 (9.0-12.7)	9.7 (9.0-10.5)
Experienced sexual dating violence	5.5 (3.7-8.1)	6.9 (6.2-7.6)

Source: YRBS

Adults

- The prevalence of lifetime sexual violence victimization in Alaska (44.6 percent) is greater than the national prevalence (36.3 percent).¹⁰

¹⁰ Ibid.

Prevalence of Sexual Violence by Gender

Overall Summary Statement: Sexual violence victimization is more prevalent among women compared to men. Most perpetrators of sexual violence against women are male.

Data

Sexually Violent Crimes

- Most victims of a felony level sex offense in Alaska are women (89 percent in 2017).¹¹
- Most victims (83 percent) under age 18 are girls.¹²
- Ninety-five percent of suspects of a felony level sex offense in Alaska in 2017 are men.¹³

Table 3. Victims of Felony Level Sex Offense, By Age and Gender, Counts, 2017

	Female	Male	Unknown Sex
Age Group			
Age Unknown	19	1	6
Ages 0-10	159	67	0
Ages 11-17	429	55	0
Ages 18+	720	41	1
Total	1,327	164	7

Source: AK UCR

Table 4. Suspects of Felony Level Sex Offense, By Age and Gender, 2017

	Female	Male	Unknown Sex
Age Group			
Age Unknown	9	264	12
Age 0-10	1	9	0
Age 11-17	11	149	0
Age 18+	39	960	1
Total	60	1,382	13

Source: AK UCR

Childhood Experiences

- History of childhood sexual abuse is more prevalent among adult women in Alaska compared to adult men. From 2013-2015, the percentage of adult women who experienced childhood sexual violence was 20.1 percent and the percentage of adult men was 7.7 percent.¹⁴

¹¹ State of Alaska Department of Public Safety, "Felony Level Sex Offenses, 2017: Crime in Alaska Supplemental Report," Alaska Department of Public Safety, August 2018, <https://dps.alaska.gov/getmedia/12954bff-11ae-47d3-9709-3b3e4ab2d76d/2017-Felony-Level-Sex-Offenses>.

¹² Ibid.

¹³ Ibid.

¹⁴ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System Survey Data. Atlanta, Georgia: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, with Alaska Department of Health and Social Services. Accessed September 2018, http://ibis.dhss.alaska.gov/query/builder/BRFSS23/BRFSS_S/XACESEXS.html

Table 5. Sexual Violence Victimization by Gender, Alaska High School Youth, 2017

	Women	Men
Type of Sexual Violence	Percent (CI)	Percent (CI)
Experienced Childhood Sexual Abuse	20.1 (18.7-21.6)	7.7 (6.7-8.8)

Source: BRFSS

Youth

- According to 2017 YRBS data, 5.8 percent of male high school students and 10.8 percent of female high school students have been physically forced to have sexual intercourse at some time in their lives.¹⁵
- Among Alaska high school students reporting they had dated or went out with someone, 3.7 percent of male students and 7.1 percent of female students reported that they had been physically forced to do sexual acts by someone they dated in the past year.¹⁶
- In 2017, the prevalence of experiencing sexual violence by anyone was almost three times higher among female high school students (16.4 percent) in Alaska compared to males (5.6 percent).¹⁷

Table 6. Sexual Violence Victimization by Gender, Alaska High School Youth, 2017

	Female	Male
Types of Sexual Violence	Percent (CI)	Percent (CI)
Ever forced to have sexual intercourse	10.8 (8.0-14.5)	5.8 (3.9-8.4)
Experienced sexual violence by anyone	16.4 (13.5-19.8)	5.6 (4.0-7.9)
Experienced sexual dating violence	7.1 (4.7-10.7)	3.7 (1.7-7.9)

Source: YRBS

Adults

- The lifetime prevalence of sexual violence victimization is twice as high among Alaska women compared to Alaska men. From 2010-2012, the lifetime prevalence of sexual violence victimization among Alaska women was 44.6 percent; among Alaska men the prevalence was 20.4 percent.¹⁸
- Among female victims of rape, sexual coercion, unwanted sexual contact, and non-contact unwanted sexual experiences, approximately 95 percent of perpetrators are male.¹⁹

¹⁵ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). 1991-2017 High School Youth Risk Behavior Survey Data. Available at <http://nccd.cdc.gov/youthonline/>. Accessed on 10/2/2018.

¹⁶ Ibid.

¹⁷ Ibid.

¹⁸ Smith, S.G., Chen, J., Basile, K.C., Gilbert, L.K., Merrick, M.T., Patel, N, N., Walling, M., & Jain, A., "The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey: 2010-2012 State Report" (National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2017), <https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/NISVS-StateReportBook.pdf>.

¹⁹ Ibid.

Table 7. Percentage of Male Perpetrators in Lifetime Reports of Sexual Violence Among Female Victims, 2010-2012 Average Annual Estimates

Type of Sexual Violence Against Women	Male Perpetrators
	Weighted % (CI)
Rape (completed or any)	96.0 (87.6-98.8)
Sexual coercion	97.0 (87.3-99.3)
Unwanted sexual contact	95.6 (89.0-98.3)
Non-contact unwanted sexual experiences	94.1 (88.5-97.1)

Source: NISVS

WOMEN

- CDC data for 2010-2012 estimates the lifetime prevalence of sexual violence victimization among Alaska women was 44.6 percent.²⁰ Lifetime sexual violence victimization includes contact sexual violence, rape, made to penetrate, sexual coercion, unwanted sexual contact, and non-contact unwanted sexual experiences.
- The prevalence of lifetime sexual violence victimization among Alaska women (44.6 percent) is the third highest in the nation.²¹
- Alaska ranks third highest in the nation for lifetime prevalence of any rape among women. The lifetime prevalence of any rape (completed or attempted) among Alaska women was 24.5 percent during the 2010-2012 period; the national prevalence among U.S. women was 19.1 percent.²²
- The prevalence of sexual violence among women is higher than the national average on seven indicators for sexual violence against women.²³ Average annual estimates for contact sexual violence, rape (all types), sexual coercion, unwanted sexual contact, and non-contact unwanted sexual experiences are higher than the national average in Alaska.
- The 2015 AVS conducted by the University of Alaska Anchorage Justice Center estimated 4.3 percent of Alaska women experienced sexual violence in the prior 12 months; the same survey found that 33.1 percent of Alaska women experienced sexual violence in their lifetimes.²⁴

²⁰ Smith, S.G., Chen, J., Basile, K.C., Gilbert, L.K., Merrick, M.T., Patel, N, N., Walling, M., & Jain, A., "The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey: 2010-2012 State Report" (National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2017), <https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/NISVS-StateReportBook.pdf>.

²¹ Ibid.

²² Ibid.

²³ Ibid.

²⁴ University of Alaska Anchorage Justice Center, "2015 Alaska Victimization Survey," accessed September 10, 2018, <https://www.uaa.alaska.edu/academics/college-of-health/departments/justice-center/research/alaska-victimization-survey/alaska.cshml>.

Table 8. Lifetime Prevalence of Sexual Violence Victimization, Female Victims, 2010-2012 Average Annual Estimates

	Alaska	United States
Types of Sexual Violence	Weighted % (CI)	Weighted % (CI)
Contact sexual violence	44.6 (38.0-51.3)	36.3 (35.3-37.2)
Rape (completed or any) – any type	24.5 (19.2-30.7)	19.1 (18.3-19.9)
Rape – completed or attempted forced penetration	17.8 (13.3-23.5)	14.4 (13.7-15.1)
Rape – completed alcohol/drug-facilitated penetration	12.8 (8.8-18.4)	9.0 (8.4-9.6)
Sexual coercion	14.3 (10.2-19.8)	13.2 (12.5-13.9)
Unwanted sexual contact	35.1 (28.8-41.8)	27.5 (26.7-28.4)
Non-contact unwanted sexual experiences	37.9 (31.6-44.7)	32.1 (31.1-33.0)

Source: NISVS

MEN

- Data from CDC for 2010-2012 estimates the lifetime prevalence of sexual violence victimization among Alaska men is 20.4 percent.²⁵
- The prevalence of lifetime sexual violence victimization among Alaska men (20.4 percent) is the seventh highest in the nation.²⁶
- The prevalence of lifetime sexual violence victimization among Alaska men (20.4 percent) is greater than the national prevalence (17.1 percent).²⁷

Table 9. Lifetime Prevalence of Sexual Violence Victimization, Male Victims, 2010-2012 Average Annual Estimates

	Alaska	United States
Types of Sexual Violence	Weighted % (CI)	Weighted % (CI)
Contact sexual violence	20.4 (15.4-26.6)	17.1 (16.3-17.9)
Sexual coercion	6.5 (4.0-10.3)	5.8 (5.3-6.3)
Unwanted sexual contact	14.2 (9.9-19.9)	11.0 (10.3-11.7)
Non-contact unwanted sexual experiences	16.6 (12.1-22.3)	13.2 (12.5-14.0)

Source: NISVS

²⁵ Smith, S.G., Chen, J., Basile, K.C., Gilbert, L.K., Merrick, M.T., Patel, N, N., Walling, M., & Jain, A., “The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey: 2010-2012 State Report” (National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2017), <https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/NISVS-StateReportBook.pdf>.

²⁶ Ibid.

²⁷ Ibid.

Prevalence of Sexual Violence by Race & Ethnicity

Overall Summary Statement: Among high school youth in Alaska, the prevalence of sexual violence is similar between race and ethnicity groups. The prevalence of childhood sexual abuse among adults in Alaska is highest among Alaska Native people. Based on 2017 crime data, Alaska Native females have the highest victimization rate of any gender or racial group in Alaska.

Data

Sexual Violent Crimes

- Alaska Native females experience the highest victimization rate of any gender or racial group, comprising 42 percent of all reported victims in 2017.²⁸

Table 10. Victims of Felony Level Sex Offense, by Race and Gender, 2017

	Female	Male	Unknown Sex
Race/Ethnicity			
Alaska Native	635	50	0
Asian	59	9	0
Black	46	7	0
Race Unknown	161	24	6
White	426	74	1
Total	1,327	164	7

Source: AK UCR

Childhood Experiences

- During 2013-2015, 17.4 percent of Alaska Native adults report they experienced childhood sexual abuse.
- The three-year average for experience of sexual abuse in childhood among Non-Hispanic White adults and Non-Hispanic Multiracial/other adults are similar at 13.6 and 13.4 percent, respectively.
- Among Hispanic adults, 12.8 percent experience childhood sexual abuse.
- The percentages of Black, Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander, and Asian adults who experienced childhood sexual abuse are 10.9 percent, 9.8 percent, and 9.2 percent, respectively.

²⁸ State of Alaska Department of Public Safety, "Felony Level Sex Offenses, 2017: Crime in Alaska Supplemental Report," Alaska Department of Public Safety, August 2018, <https://dps.alaska.gov/getmedia/12954bff-11ae-47d3-9709-3b3e4ab2d76d/2017-Felony-Level-Sex-Offenses>.

Table 11. Percentage of Adults Who Experienced Childhood Sexual Abuse, by Race/Ethnicity, 2013-2015

Race/Ethnicity	Percent (CI)
Alaska Native	17.4 (15.2-19.9)
Asian	9.2 (5.5-14.9)
Black	10.9 (6.6-17.4)
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	9.8 (3.9-22.8)
White	13.6 (12.6-14.7)
Multiracial	13.4 (6.4-25.9)
Hispanic	12.8 (8.3-19.3)
Total	13.7 (12.8-19.9)

Source: BRFSS

Youth

- The prevalence of ever being forced to have sexual intercourse by race/ethnicity in 2017 is 10.9 percent for Hispanic youth, 10.3 percent for Alaska Native youth, 7.3 percent for White youth, and 6.3 percent for Multiple Race youth.²⁹
- There is no statistical difference in the prevalence of being forced to have sexual intercourse among Alaska high school youth by race in 2017.³⁰
- Across all race and ethnicity categories where data are available for 2017, approximately one in ten youth experienced sexual violence by anyone. The prevalence of ever experiencing sexual violence by anyone by race/ethnicity is 13.2 percent for Hispanic youth, 11.1 percent for Alaska Native youth, 10.7 percent for Multiple Race youth, and 9.3 percent for White youth.³¹
- Data for experience of sexual dating violence among high school youth in Alaska in 2017 are only available for Alaska Native and White students. In 2017, 3.4 percent of Alaska Native students and 4.3 percent of White students experienced sexual dating violence.³²

²⁹ Alaska Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System, Alaska Department of Health and Social Services, Division of Public Health, Section of Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion. Available at <http://ibis.dhss.alaska.gov/query/selection/yrbsl23/YRBSSelection.html>. Accessed July 2018.

³⁰ Ibid.

³¹ Ibid.

³² Ibid.

Table 12. Sexual Violence Victimization by Race and Ethnicity^a, Alaska High School Youth, 2017

	Alaska Native	Hispanic	White	Multiple Race
Types of Sexual Violence	Percent (CI)	Percent (CI)	Percent (CI)	Percent (CI)
Ever forced to have sexual intercourse	10.3 (6.4-16.2)	10.9 (6.6-17.6)	7.3 (5.2-10.2)	6.3 (3.2-12.0)
Experienced sexual violence by anyone in the past year	11.1 (8.0-15.2)	13.2 (7.7-22.0)	9.3 (6.9-12.5)	10.7 (7.1-15.7)
Experienced sexual dating violence in the past year	3.4 (0.9-11.3)	*	4.3 (2.3-8.0)	*

^a Data for Asian, Black, and Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander high school students is not available for any form of sexual violence assessed through the Youth Risk Behavior Survey.

* Data not available.

Source: YRBS

Prevalence of Sexual Violence by Regions

Overall Summary Statement: The rate of sexually violent crime is highest in Western Alaska. The prevalence of sexual violence among youth does not significantly vary by region, however when looking at data by public health region and race, the prevalence of rape among students in Anchorage is higher among Alaska Native students in comparison to all students in Anchorage. Survey data collected between 2011 and 2015 found that the prevalence of sexual violence among women was highest in the City and Borough of Juneau.

Data

Sexually Violent Crime

- In 2017, the rate of sex offenses by region per 100,000 population in the Anchorage area was 251.4, 410.1 in Western Alaska, 98.5 in Northern Alaska, 133.7 in Southeast Alaska, and 46.4 in Southcentral Alaska.
- In 2017, Western Alaska (comprised of 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, and Northwest Arctic Borough) had the highest reported rate of felony sex offense incidents at 410.1 incidents per 100,000 population.³³
- In 2017, half of the reported felony sex offense incidents occurred in Anchorage. There were 741 reported incidents in Anchorage. The rate of reported felony sex offenses in Anchorage in 2017 was 251.7 per 100,000 population.³⁴

Table 13. Felony Level Sex Offenses, Reports by Region, 2017

Region	Number of Incidents	Rate per 100,000 population
Anchorage Area	741	251.4
Western Alaska	303	410.1
Northern Alaska	122	98.5
Southeast Alaska	122	133.7
Southcentral Alaska	81	46.4
Alaska Statewide	1,475^a	199.4

^a The statewide total includes cases reported by specialized agencies that provide service statewide and do not represent a specific region.
Source: AVS

Youth

- Among students dating, the prevalence of youth reporting they had been forced to do sexual things by a dating partner by region was 8.2 percent in the Interior, 7.2 percent in the Gulf Coast region, 6.9

³³ State of Alaska Department of Public Safety, "Felony Level Sex Offenses, 2017: Crime in Alaska Supplemental Report," Alaska Department of Public Safety, August 2018, <https://dps.alaska.gov/getmedia/12954bff-11ae-47d3-9709-3b3e4ab2d76d/2017-Felony-Level-Sex-Offenses>.

³⁴ Ibid.

percent in Southwest Alaska, 6.4 percent in Anchorage, 6.1 percent in the Northern region, 6.0 percent in Southeast Alaska, and 5.4 percent in the Mat-Su region.

- By public health region, the prevalence of rape among all high school youth in 2017 was 7.8 percent in Anchorage, 9.4 percent in the Gulf Coast, 8.6 percent in the Interior, 10.8 percent in the Mat-Su, 8.9 percent in the Northern region, 8.9 percent in the Southeast and 9.1 percent in the Southwest.
- In 2015, the prevalence of rape among Alaska Native youth in Anchorage was twice the prevalence for all youth in Anchorage. Thirteen percent of Alaska Native youth in Anchorage reported ever being physically forced to have sexual intercourse when they did not want to, compared to 6.4 percent of all high school students in Anchorage.

Table 14. Prevalence of Sexual Violence, High School Students, by Alaska Public Health Region, 2017

Public Health Region	Ever forced to have sexual intercourse	Experienced sexual violence by anyone in past year	Experienced sexual dating violence in past year
	Percent (CI)	Percent (CI)	Percent (CI)
Anchorage	7.8 (6.1-10.0)	11.6 (9.9-13.6)	6.4 (4.7-8.8)
Gulf Coast	9.4 (8.2-10.8)	10.8 (9.5-12.3)	7.2 (5.8-8.8)
Interior	8.6 (6.9-10.7)	13.6 (11.4-16.1)	8.2 (6.4-10.5)
Mat-Su	10.8 (8.9-13.2)	9.8 (8.0-12.1)	5.4 (3.9-7.6)
Northern	8.9 (6.9-11.6)	9.4 (7.1-12.5)	6.1 (4.4-8.5)
Southeast	8.9 (6.8-11.5)	8.5 (6.4-11.3)	6.0 (3.9-9.2)
Southwest	9.1 (7.8-10.7)	11.6 (9.9-13.5)	6.9 (5.1-9.2)
Alaska Statewide	8.2 (6.3-10.5)	10.7 (9.0-12.7)	5.5 (3.7-8.1)

Source: YRBS and AK YRBS

Table 15. Percentage of Students Who Had Ever Been Physically Forced to Have Sexual Intercourse When They Did Not Want To, by Alaska Public Health Regions, 2015

Public Health Region	All Students		Alaska Native Students	
	Percent	Confidence Intervals	Percent	Confidence Intervals
Anchorage	6.4	(5.1-8.1)	13.0	(8.8-18.8)
Gulf Coast	10.1	(8.6-11.9)	14.4	(10.5-19.4)
Interior	6.5	(4.8-8.8)	8.8	(5.0-15.1)
Mat-Su	10.4	(8.2-13.2)	9.3	(5.6-15.2)
Northern	8.0	(6.5-9.7)	8.1	(6.4-10.0)
Southeast	9.2	(7.8-10.8)	9.6	(6.9-13.1)
Southwest	12.5	(9.3-16.6)	13.8	(10.0-18.7)
Alaska Statewide	7.5	(6.0-9.4)	9.4	(6.1-14.3)

Source: AK YRBS

Adults

- By region, and as captured by the AVS, the lifetime prevalence of sexual violence among women in Alaska is highest in the City and Borough of Juneau at 35 percent.
- The five regions with the highest lifetime prevalence of sexual violence among women are the City and Borough of Juneau (35 percent), Matanuska-Susitna Borough (34 percent), Ketchikan Gateway Borough (33 percent), Municipality of Anchorage (32 percent), and Fairbanks North Star Borough (32 percent).

Table 16. Lifetime Prevalence of Sexual Violence Among Women in Alaska, Regions in Alaska, Data Collected Between 2011 and 2015

	Percent	Survey Year
Region		
Aleutian/Pribilof Island Region	24	2014-2015
Anchorage, Municipality	32	2015
Bristol Bay Region	31	2011
Fairbanks North Star Borough	32	2011
Juneau, City and Borough	35	2011
Kenai Peninsula Borough	30	2013
Ketchikan Gateway Borough	33	2013
Kodiak Island Borough	23	2012
Matanuska-Susitna Borough	34	2013
Nome Census Area	31	2014
Sitka, City and Borough	25	2012
Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta	25	2012
Alaska Statewide	33	2015

Source: AVS

Prevalence of Sexual Violence by Sexual Orientation

Overall Summary Statement: Nationally, rates of sexual violence are higher among lesbian, gay, and bisexual people compared to the heterosexual population.³⁵ While there is limited data regarding sexual violence among lesbian, gay, and bisexual Alaskans, data from BRFSS indicates the prevalence of childhood sexual abuse is higher among gay, lesbian, and bisexual adults compared to heterosexual adults.

Data

Childhood Experiences

- Compiled BRFSS data from 2013-2015 finds 26.1 percent of gay or lesbian and 36.6 percent of bisexual adults were victims of childhood sexual abuse compared to 15.2 percent of heterosexual adults.

Table 17. Percentage of Adults in Alaska Ever Experienced Childhood Sexual Abuse, by Sexual Orientation, 2013-2015

Demographics	Experienced	Never Experienced
Sexual Orientation	Percent (CI)	Percent (CI)
Straight	15.2 (14.2-16.3)	84.8 (83.7-85.8)
Gay or Lesbian	26.1 (17.1-37.7)	73.9 (62.3-82.9)
Bisexual	36.6 (27.0-47.4)	63.4 (52.64-73.0)

Source: BRFSS

Youth (National Data Only)

- Among rape victims, bisexual women experienced rape earlier in life compared to heterosexual women. Of those women who have been raped, almost half of bisexual women (48 percent) and more than a quarter of heterosexual women (28 percent) experienced their first completed rape between the ages of 11 and 17 years.³⁶

Adults (National Data Only)

- According to data from the NISVS survey, 13 percent of lesbian women, nearly half of bisexual women (46 percent), and 17 percent of heterosexual women have been raped in their lifetime.³⁷
- Forty percent of gay men, nearly half of bisexual men (47 percent), and 21 percent of heterosexual men have experienced sexual violence other than rape in their lifetime.³⁸

³⁵ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "NISVS: An Overview of 2010 Findings on Victimization by Sexual Orientation," 2, accessed October 3, 2018, https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/cdc_nisvs_victimization_final-a.pdf.

³⁶ Ibid.

³⁷ Ibid.

³⁸ Ibid.

Prevalence of Sexual Violence by Disability

Overall Summary Statement: Nationally, people with disabilities experience greater rates of sexual violence than people without disabilities.³⁹ While there are limited data regarding sexual violence among Alaskans with disabilities, data from Alaska BRFSS indicates the prevalence of childhood sexual abuse is higher among individuals with disabilities compared to those without a disability.

Data

Childhood Experiences

- Among adults reporting a disability, 24.3 percent experienced sexual abuse in childhood.⁴⁰ Comparatively, 11.7 percent of adults without a disability reported experiencing childhood sexual abuse.

Table 18. Percentage of Adults in Alaska Ever Experienced Childhood Sexual Abuse, by Disability Status, 2013-2015

Demographics	Experienced
Disability Status	Percent (CI)
Disability	24.3 (21.6-27.2)
No Disability	11.7 (10.8-12.7)

Source: BRFSS

Adults (National Data Only)

- According to the Bureau of Justice Statistics, nationally, the rate of rape/sexual assault against persons with disabilities is more than twice the rate of victimization against persons without disabilities. Between 2011 and 2015, the rate of rape/sexual assault among persons with disabilities was 2.1 per 1,000 persons; the rate among persons without disabilities was 0.6 per 1,000 persons.⁴¹
- During 2011-2015, the rate of rape or sexual assault against persons with a single disability type (1.4 per 1,000) was lower than the rate for those with multiple disability types (2.8 per 1,000).⁴²

³⁹ Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network, "Sexual Abuse of People with Disabilities | RAINN," accessed October 3, 2018, <https://www.rainn.org/articles/sexual-abuse-people-disabilities>.

⁴⁰ Alaska Department of Health and Social Services, "AK-IBIS - Health Indicator Report - Adverse Childhood Experiences: Sexual Abuse," AK-IBIS, October 31, 2017, <http://ibis.dhss.alaska.gov/indicator/view/xacesexs.HA.html>.

⁴¹ Erika Harrell, "Crime Against Persons with Disabilities, 2009-2015 - Statistical Tables," Statistical Tables, 2017, 17.

⁴² Ibid.

Sexual Violence Impacts on Health Risk Behavior & Chronic Disease

Overall Summary Statement: Sexual violence is associated with high-risk health behaviors and long-term health consequences. Among those who experienced sexual violence in childhood, the prevalence of high blood pressure, overweight and obesity, and smoking is higher. Alaskan adults who have experienced childhood sexual abuse are also more likely to report ever being diagnosed with arthritis, asthma, cancer, emphysema, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, and chronic bronchitis, stroke, or a depressive disorder.

Childhood Experiences

- BRFSS data from 2013-2015 shows 13.7 percent of all Alaskan adults experienced childhood sexual abuse and violence.⁴³
- Adults who have experienced childhood sexual abuse are more likely to have high blood pressure, be overweight or obese, and currently smoke.⁴⁴
- Alaskan adults who have experienced childhood sexual abuse are also more likely to report ever being diagnosed with arthritis, asthma, cancer, chronic lung disease (emphysema, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, and chronic bronchitis,) stroke, or a depressive disorder.⁴⁵
- The prevalence of ever being diagnosed with a depressive disorder among adults who experienced childhood sexual abuse is almost three times higher (35.4 percent) than adults who did not experience childhood sexual abuse (12.4 percent).⁴⁶

(See table next page.)

⁴³ Alaska Department of Health and Social Services, "AK-IBIS - Health Indicator Report - Adverse Childhood Experiences: Sexual Abuse," AK-IBIS, October 31, 2017, <http://ibis.dhss.alaska.gov/indicator/view/xacesexs.HA.html>.

⁴⁴ Alaska Department of Health and Social Services, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), "Relationship between Experiencing Child Sexual Violence and Adult Health Risks." Analysis Completed by David Howell for the Alaska RPE Program. 2019.

⁴⁵ Ibid

⁴⁶ Ibid.

Table 19. Prevalence of Health Risk Behaviors, Chronic Health Conditions and Mental Health Conditions, by Childhood Sexual Abuse Status, Alaska, 2013-2015

	Experienced Childhood Sexual Abuse	Did Not Experience Childhood Sexual Abuse	Odd's Ratio	Significant Difference (p<.05)
Health Risk Behaviors	Percent (CI)	Percent (CI)	Odd's Ratio (CI)	Yes or No
Binge Drinking	17.8 (15.2-20.8)	19.9 (18.6-21.7)	0.87 (0.71-1.08)	No
Heavy Drinking	9.0 (7.3-11.2)	8.2 (7.4-9.2)	1.11 (0.85-1.45)	No
Current Smoker	26.9 (23.8-30.3)	19.0 (17.7-20.3)	1.57 (1.30-1.89)	Yes
High Blood Pressure	32.0 (28.9-35.3)	27.8 (26.5-29.2)	1.22 (1.04-1.43)	Yes
Leisure Time Exercise	76.1 (72.8-79.1)	78.6 (77.3-80.0)	0.87 (0.71-1.05)	No
Overweight/Obesity	69.9 (66.7-73.0)	65.7 (64.1-67.2)	1.21 (1.03-1.43)	Yes
Routine Check-Up	42.6 (39.1-46.2)	42.6 (41.0-44.2)	1.00 (0.85-1.17)	No
Chronic Health Conditions				
Arthritis	32.6 (29.6-35.8)	20.7 (19.6-21.9)	1.85 (1.58-2.17)	Yes
Asthma	20.1 (17.6-23.0)	12.1 (11.1-13.3)	1.83 (1.50-2.23)	Yes
Cancer	11.8 (10.0-13.8)	7.2 (6.6-7.9)	1.72 (1.40-2.11)	Yes
Diabetes	8.6 (7.0-10.6)	7.4 (6.6-8.2)	1.19 (0.92-1.54)	No
Emphysema, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease, and Chronic Bronchitis	8.0 (6.4-10.0)	4.3 (3.7-5.0)	1.94 (1.45-2.60)	Yes
Heart Attack	2.9 (2.1-4.0)	3.2 (2.8-3.7)	0.90 (0.63-1.30)	No
Heart Disease	3.5 (2.6-4.7)	2.8 (2.4-3.3)	1.27 (0.89-1.80)	No
Stroke	3.1 (2.2-4.4)	2.0 (1.6-2.4)	1.60 (1.05-2.42)	Yes
Mental Health Conditions				
Depressive Disorder	35.4 (32.1-38.9)	12.4 (11.4-13.4)	3.88 (3.26-4.63)	Yes

Source: BRFSS – Alaska Department of Health and Social Services, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), “Relationship between Experiencing Child Sexual Violence (ACES) and Adult Health Risks.” Analysis Completed by David Howell for the Alaska RPE Program. 2019.

Appendix A: Public Health Regions

Alaska Public Health Regions are based upon the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development's six Economic Regions: Anchorage and Mat-Su, Gulf Coast, Interior, Northern, Southeast, and Southwest. For public health purposes, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough is reported separately from the Municipality of Anchorage.

ANCHORAGE

- Municipality of Anchorage

GULF COAST REGION

- Kenai Peninsula Borough
- Kodiak Island Borough
- Valdez-Cordova Census Area

INTERIOR REGION

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

MAT-SU

- Matanuska-Susitna Borough

NORTHERN REGION

- Nome Census Area
- North Slope Borough
- Northwest Arctic Borough

SOUTHEAST REGION

- 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

SOUTHWEST REGION

- Aleutians East Borough
- Aleutians West Census Area
- Bethel Census Area
- Bristol Bay Borough
- Dillingham Census Area
- Kusilvak Census Area
- Lake and Peninsula Borough