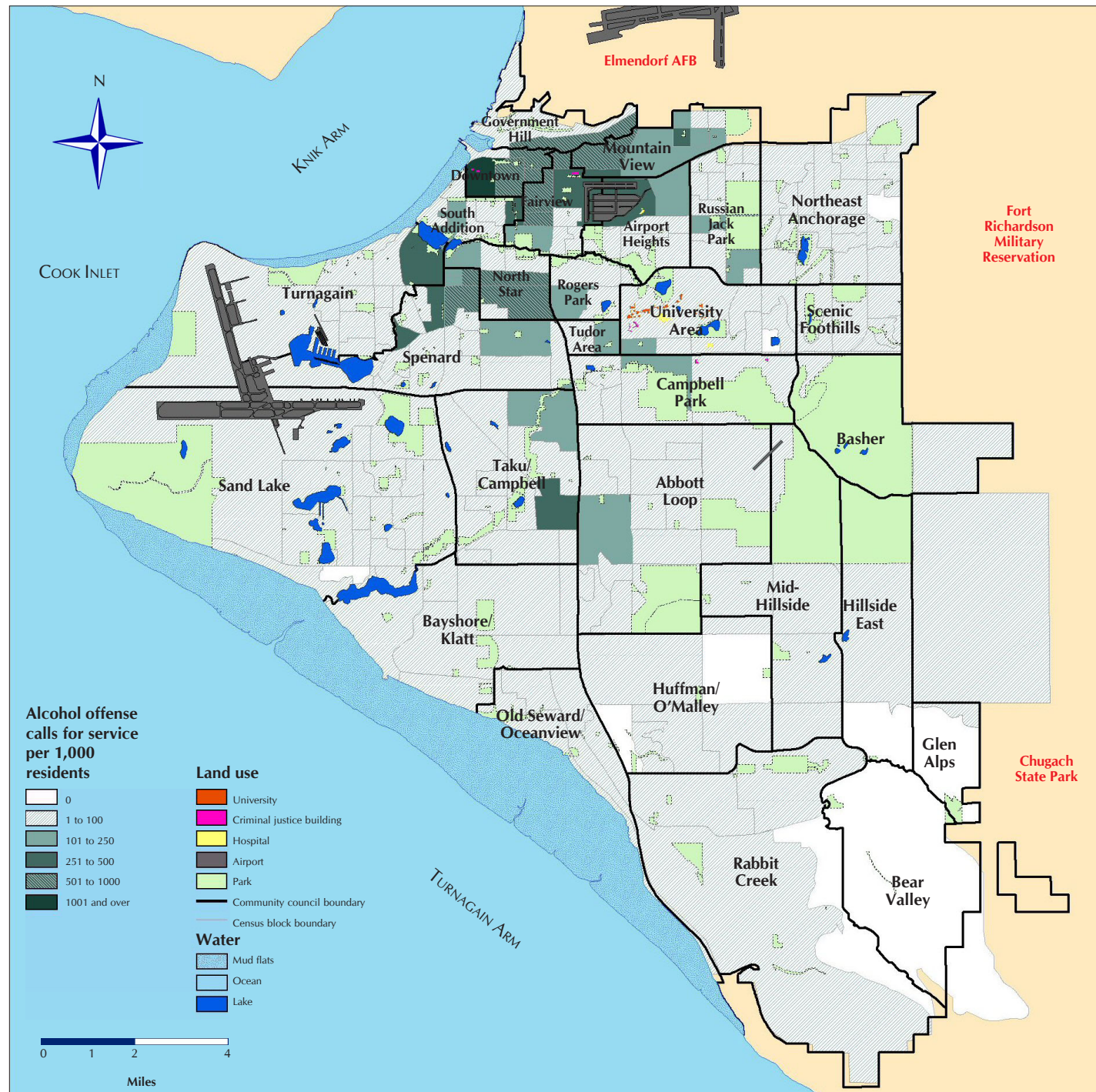




An Examination of Police Service Deployment: Alcohol Offenses



Number of Alcohol Offense Calls for Service per 1,000 Residents, by Census Block Group, 2003

The *Alcohol-Related Offenses* map presented here depicts the annual rate of police calls-for-service (CFS) for incidents which involved alcohol in the Anchorage Bowl in 2003. The Alcohol-related offenses CFS rate comprises the following incident categories as specified by the Anchorage Police Department (APD): “drunk problem,” “drunk transport,” “drunk driving,” and “liquor law violation.” Of course, alcohol involvement is not limited to these four CFS categories; therefore this composite measure of alcohol-related police activity is limited in its scope. There were a total of 8,769 of these alcohol-related CFS in Anchorage in 2003. Of these, 57 percent ($n = 4,971$) were classified as general drunk problems; drunk driving was 18 percent ($n = 1,595$) of the total; transportation of drunk persons also constituted approximately 18 percent ($n = 1,567$) of all cases; and the remaining 7 percent ($n = 636$) of alcohol-related CFS were classified as liquor law violations.

The rates of alcohol-related CFS depicted in each block group area far exceeded the rates for all the other offense types presented in this issue of *Anchorage Community Indicators*. That is, as a class of incidents, alcohol-related events make up a larger portion of the Anchorage Police Department’s total CFS workload than any of the other categorizations described here. What’s more it appears there are very few areas of the city where the police aren’t asked to respond to an alcohol-related incident on a relatively routine basis (in comparison to other classes of offenses). These types of incidents appear to be at least a low-level nuisance in nearly all areas of Anchorage (Bear Valley

and Glen Alps being the most notable exceptions to this generalization).

Yet, as with the other offense categories examined in this issue, CFS involving alcohol demonstrate an uneven geographical distribution. The highest CFS rate for alcohol-related offenses was found to be the western section of the Downtown community council area – with an astonishing 2,169 CFS per 1,000 residents. None of the other block group areas in the city had an alcohol-related CFS rate greater than 500 per 1,000 residents. Census blocks with a rate exceeding 250 CFS per 1,000 residents, but less than 500 CFS per 1,000 residents, were clustered in two general areas: downtown (including Government Hill, Downtown, Fairview and Mountain View community council areas) and midtown (including Spenard and North Star community council areas).

Distribution of Alcohol Offense Calls for Service, 2003
Anchorage Bowl

CFS rate per 1,000 residents	Number	Percent
1 – 10	6	3.2 %
11 – 50	148	78.7
51 – 100	19	10.1
101 – 150	7	3.7
151 – 200	7	3.7
201 and over	1	0.5
Total	188	