

# Alaska Victimization Survey: 2011 Results for Fairbanks



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## Alaska Victimization Survey in Fairbanks




- Designed to establish a baseline for estimates of intimate partner & sexual violence in City of Fairbanks and Fairbanks North Star Borough.
- Modeled after the National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Surveillance System (CDC) & the 2010 Alaska Victimization Survey (UAA).
- Surveys were administered by RTI International.
- Surveys were conducted by phone throughout the City of Fairbanks and FNSB.




## Alaska Victimization Survey in Fairbanks



- Survey was approved by multiple institutional review boards and was supported by the Interior Alaska Center for Non-Violent Living and the Fairbanks Domestic Violence Task Force.
- Survey procedures were designed to maximize the safety and confidentiality of all respondents.
- Respondents were randomly selected using landlines and cell phones (only adult females).
- 615 respondents in City of Fairbanks, 755 in Fairbanks North Star Borough.




## Alaska Victimization Survey in Fairbanks




- The sample provides a good representation of the population. Nonetheless, all results are weighted to control for selection, non-response, and coverage.
- There are some very important limitations to this survey. In particular, respondents were limited to English-speaking adult women residing in a household with at least one land or cell phone line. Surveys were only conducted from April 2011 to June 2011.




## Alaska Victimization Survey in Fairbanks




- The questions in the survey are very graphic because they are “behaviorally specific.”
- For example, we ask: “How many of your romantic or sexual partners have ever slapped you?”
  - Avoid legal definitions (e.g., ‘assault’)
  - Avoid defining victims, survivors
  - Attribute blame to the perpetrators




## Intimate Partner Violence Definitions




- Intimate partner violence includes two measures:
  - *A – Threats of physical violence.*
  - *B – Physical violence.*
  - *Both include intimate partners only, defined as romantic or sexual partners.*
  - *Measures are then combined into a single ‘intimate partner violence’ composite.*
- Threats of physical violence by intimate partners:
  - *Have your romantic or sexual partners made threats to physically harm you?*




## Intimate Partner Violence Definitions



- Physical violence by intimate partners:
  - *Have your romantic or sexual partners...*
    - *Slapped you?*
    - *Pushed or shoved you?*
    - *Hit you with a fist or something hard?*
    - *Kicked you?*
    - *Hurt you by pulling your hair?*
    - *Slammed you against something?*
    - *Tried to hurt you by choking or suffocating you?*
    - *Beaten you?*
    - *Burned you on purpose?*
    - *Used a knife or gun on you?*




## Intimate Partner Violence Estimates




Lifetime Estimates (City)	Estimated %	Estimated N <small>(out of 10,775)</small>
Intimate Partner Violence <sup>1</sup>	49.5%	5,334
A. Threats	30.2%	3,254
B. Physical Violence	48.8%	5,258

<sup>1</sup> – Includes both threats of physical violence and physical violence by intimate partners.

- *49.5% of adult women in the City of Fairbanks (or 5,334) experienced intimate partner violence in their lifetime,*
  - *30.2% (or 3,254) experienced threats of physical violence,*
  - *48.8% (or 5,258) experienced physical violence.*




## Intimate Partner Violence Estimates




Lifetime Estimates (FNSB)	Estimated %	Estimated N <small>(out of 33,957)</small>
Intimate Partner Violence <sup>1</sup>	34.6%	11,749
A. Threats	21.8%	7,403
B. Physical Violence	34.3%	11,647

1 – Includes both threats of physical violence and physical violence by intimate partners.

- *34.6% of adult women in FNSB (or 11,749) experienced intimate partner violence in their lifetime,*
  - *21.8% (or 7,403) experienced threats of physical violence,*
  - *34.3% (or 11,647) experienced physical violence.*




## Intimate Partner Violence Estimates




Past Year Estimates (City)	Estimated %	Estimated N <small>(out of 10,775)</small>
Intimate Partner Violence <sup>1</sup>	10.8%	1,164
A. Threats	6.8%	733
B. Physical Violence	10.3%	1,110

1 – Includes both threats of physical violence and physical violence by intimate partners.

- *10.8% of adult women in the City of Fairbanks (or 1,164) experienced intimate partner violence in the past year,*
  - *6.8% (or 733) experienced threats of physical violence,*
  - *10.3% (or 1,110) experienced physical violence.*




## Intimate Partner Violence Estimates




Past Year Estimates (FNSB)	Estimated %	Estimated N <small>(out of 33,957)</small>
Intimate Partner Violence <sup>1</sup>	4.8%	1,630
A. Threats	3.5%	1,188
B. Physical Violence	4.6%	1,562

<sup>1</sup> – Includes both threats of physical violence and physical violence by intimate partners.

- *4.8% of adult women in FNSB (or 1,630) experienced intimate partner violence in the past year,*
  - *3.5% (or 1,188) experienced threats of physical violence,*
  - *4.6% (or 1,562) experienced physical violence.*



## Intimate Partner Violence Estimates




Lifetime Estimates	City of Fairbanks	FNSB
Lifetime IPV <sup>1</sup>	49.5%	34.6%
A. Lifetime Threats	30.2%	21.8%
B. Lifetime Physical Violence	48.8%	34.3%
Past Year IPV <sup>1</sup>	10.8%	4.8%
A. Past Year Threats	6.8%	3.5%
B. Past Year Physical Violence	10.3%	4.6%


<sup>1</sup> – Intimate Partner Violence includes both threats of physical violence and physical violence by intimate partners.

*Differences between City of Fairbanks and FNSB may be due to:*


- *Differences in victimization rates*
- *Differences in disclosing victimizations*




## Sexual Violence Definitions




- **Sexual violence includes two measures:**
  - *A – Alcohol or drug involved sexual assault.*
  - *B – Forcible sexual assault.*
  - *Measures are not limited to intimate partners.*
  - *Measures are then combined into a single ‘sexual violence’ composite.*
- **Alcohol or drug involved sexual assault:**
  - *When you were alcohol or drug intoxicated and unable to consent, has anyone...*
    - *Had vaginal sex with you?*
    - *Made you receive anal sex?*
    - *Made you perform oral sex?*
    - *Made you receive oral sex?*




## Sexual Violence Definitions



- **Forcible sexual assault:**
  - *Has anyone used physical force or threats to physically harm you to...*
    - *Make you have vaginal sex?*
    - *Make you receive anal sex?*
    - *Make you perform oral sex?*
    - *Make you receive oral sex?*
    - *Put their fingers or an object in your vagina or anus?*
    - *Try to have vaginal, oral, or anal sex with you?*




## Sexual Violence Estimates




Lifetime Estimates (City)	Estimated %	Estimated N <small>(out of 10,775)</small>
Sexual Violence <sup>1</sup>	31.4%	3,383
A. Alcohol or Drug Involved Sexual Assault	18.0%	1,940
B. Forcible Sexual Assault	25.3%	2,726

1 – Includes both alcohol or drug involved sexual assault and forcible sexual assault.

- *31.4% of adult women in the City of Fairbanks (or 3,383) experienced sexual violence in their lifetime,*
  - *18.0% (or 1,940) experienced at least one alcohol or drug involved sexual assault,*
  - *25.3% (or 2,726) experienced at least one forcible sexual assault.*




## Sexual Violence Estimates




Lifetime Estimates (FNSB)	Estimated %	Estimated N <small>(out of 33,957)</small>
Sexual Violence <sup>1</sup>	31.6%	10,730
A. Alcohol or Drug Involved Sexual Assault	21.1%	7,165
B. Forcible Sexual Assault	23.6%	8,014

1 – Includes both alcohol or drug involved sexual assault and forcible sexual assault.

- *31.6% of adult women in FNSB (or 10,730) experienced sexual violence in their lifetime,*
  - *21.1% (or 7,165) experienced at least one alcohol or drug involved sexual assault,*
  - *23.6% (or 8,014) experienced at least one forcible sexual assault.*




## Sexual Violence Estimates




Past Year Estimates (City)	Estimated %	Estimated N <small>(out of 10,775)</small>
Sexual Violence <sup>1</sup>	2.7%	291
A. Alcohol or Drug Involved Sexual Assault	2.5%	269
B. Forcible Sexual Assault	1.4%	151

1 – Includes both alcohol or drug involved sexual assault and forcible sexual assault.

- *2.7% of adult women in the City of Fairbanks (or 291) experienced sexual violence in the past year,*
  - *2.5% (or 269) experienced at least one alcohol or drug involved sexual assault,*
  - *1.4% (or 151) experienced at least one forcible sexual assault.*




## Sexual Violence Estimates




Past Year Estimates (FNSB)	Estimated %	Estimated N <small>(out of 33,957)</small>
Sexual Violence <sup>1</sup>	1.3%	441
A. Alcohol or Drug Involved Sexual Assault	1.2%	407
B. Forcible Sexual Assault	0.4%	136

1 – Includes both alcohol or drug involved sexual assault and forcible sexual assault.

- *1.3% of adult women in FNSB (or 441) experienced sexual violence in the past year,*
  - *1.2% (or 407) experienced at least one alcohol or drug involved sexual assault,*
  - *0.4% (or 136) experienced at least one forcible sexual assault.*



## Sexual Violence Estimates




Lifetime Estimates	City of Fairbanks	FNSB
Lifetime Sexual Violence <sup>1</sup>	31.4%	31.6%
A. Lifetime Alc/Drug Sexual Assault	18.0%	21.1%
B. Lifetime Forcible Sexual Assault	25.3%	23.6%
Past Year Sexual Violence <sup>1</sup>	2.7%	1.3%
A. Past Year Alc/Drug Sexual Assault	2.5%	1.2%
B. Past Year Forcible Sexual Assault	1.4%	0.4%


1 – Includes both alcohol or drug involved sexual assault and forcible sexual assault.

*Differences between City of Fairbanks and FNSB may be due to:*

- *Differences in victimization rates*
- *Differences in disclosing victimizations*

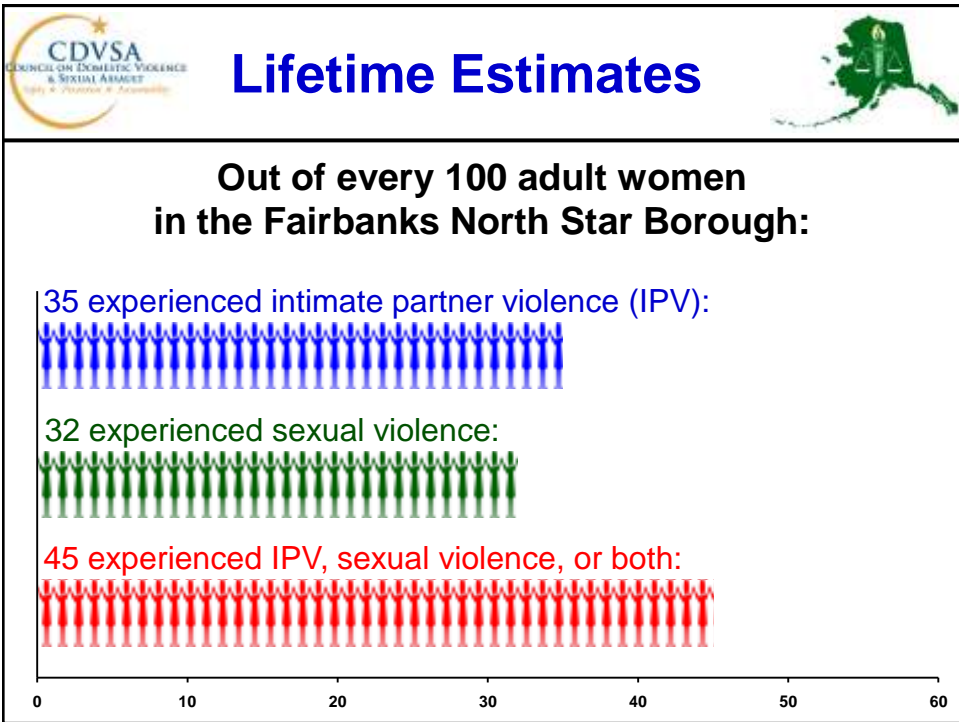
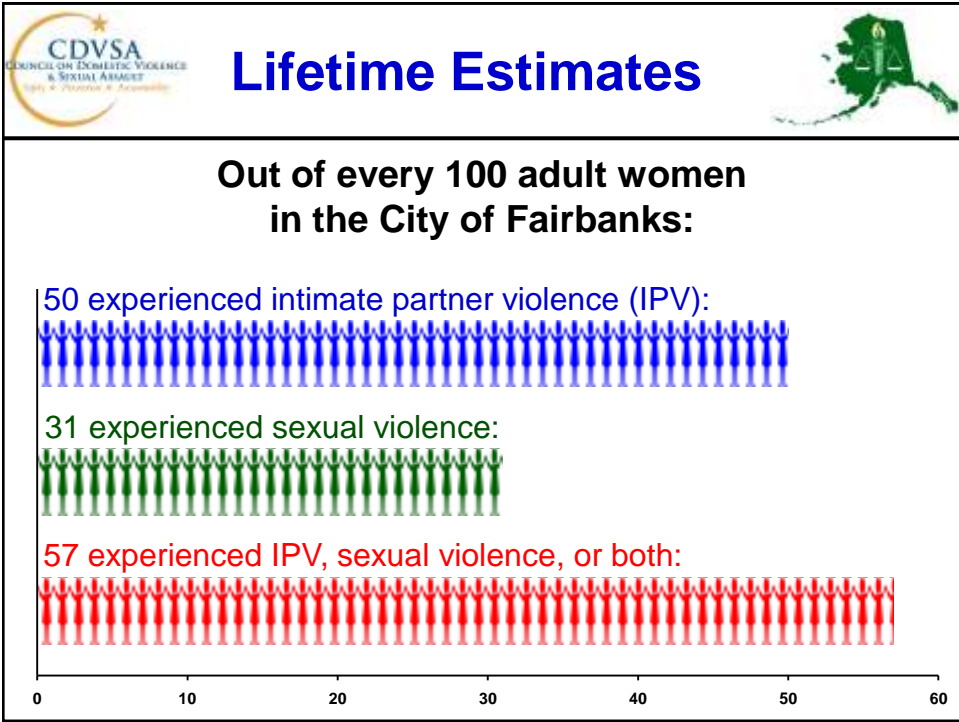




## Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence



Intimate Partner Violence, Sexual Violence, or Both	Estimated %	Estimated N
Lifetime: City of Fairbanks	57.0%	6,142
Lifetime: FNSB	44.8%	15,213
Past Year: City of Fairbanks	11.5%	1,239
Past Year: FNSB	5.5%	1,868



- *57.0% of adult women in the City of Fairbanks (or 6,142) and 44.8% of adult women in FNSB (or 15,213) experienced intimate partner violence, sexual violence, or both in their lifetime.*
- *11.5% of adult women in the City of Fairbanks (or 1,239) and 5.5% of adult women in FNSB (or 1,868) experienced intimate partner violence, sexual violence, or both in their lifetime.*



## Important Limitations

- Survey only provides a regional average and masks important differences (for example, differences by age or race/ethnicity).
- Survey excluded non-English speaking women, women without phone access, and women not living in a residence (e.g., shelters, hospitals, homeless, prisons). Estimates may be significantly higher among women excluded from the survey.

## Important Limitations

- Measured *number of victims*, not *number of victimizations*. The number of victimizations is higher than the number of victims.
- Survey did not measure all forms of intimate partner violence or sexual violence. Estimates are therefore conservative.
- Estimates may also be conservative because of the continuing stigma of reporting intimate partner and sexual violence.



**We sincerely thank the women in the City of Fairbanks and the Fairbanks North Star Borough who invested time and effort to participate in this survey.**

**They re-lived horrendous experiences – experiences no one should be subjected to – to help the rest of us understand the extent of intimate partner and sexual violence in the Fairbanks area. Thank you!**



**We also thank:**

**Interior Alaska Center for Non-Violent Living  
&  
Fairbanks Domestic Violence Task Force**

**The Interior Alaska Center for Non-Violent Living provides advocacy and support, legal advocacy, shelter, transitional housing, and community education ([www.iacnvl.org](http://www.iacnvl.org)). 24/7 support is available at (907) 452-2293 or 1(800) 478-7273.**



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